

Jordan Times

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Reagan wants proposals on table

KNOXVILLE, Tennessee (R) — President Reagan said on Tuesday he wanted to see a reported Soviet plan for large reductions in U.S. and Soviet nuclear missiles on the superpower negotiating table in Geneva. Arriving in Tennessee to campaign for domestic tax reforms, he was asked by reporters about published reports that Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze would propose both countries cut missiles and warheads by 40 per cent when he visits the White House on Friday. Asked if he would discuss it with Mr. Shevardnadze, Mr. Reagan replied: "I'm quite sure we will." But he added: "I'd like to see it on the table with the arms control people in Geneva." The United States accuses the Soviet Union of leaking undefined proposals to third parties such as the media or congressmen instead of presenting them formally in arms control talks under way in Geneva.

Moscow 'ready' to make 'deep cut', page 8

Iraq reports 11th raid on Kharg

AMMAN (AP) — Iraq reported Tuesday the 11th raid in six weeks on Iran's main Kharg Island oil terminal. The Iraqi military spokesman in Baghdad, announcing the raid, warned that the chances of the war ending by the Iraqi warplanes will not be extinguished until the war is settled. Iran has no alternative to peace but the destruction of its remaining means of aggression. He said that the Iraqi jet fighters carried out their attack at 07:10 a.m. (04:40 GMT), striking to destroy the remaining installations at the Kharg oil field, accounts for 90 per cent of Iran's oil exports. The 31st raid came after Gulf oil and shipping executives reported that Iran's oil exports had diminished by half as a result of the previous raids on Kharg. Iraq on Aug. 15 began attacking Kharg with the avowed aim of cutting off all Iranian exports and pressuring the regime of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini into a negotiated settlement to the five-year-old Gulf war.

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Owen due in Amman

AMMAN (O.T.) — Prominent British opposition leader David Owen is scheduled to arrive here on Thursday on a two-day visit to Jordan. British diplomats here said Mr. Owen, a leader of the British Social Democratic Party (SDP) and a former foreign secretary, is expected to be received by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, they said.

10 injured in Vienna explosion

VIENNA (AP) — A bomb exploded at a Hungarian bank building early Tuesday, sending shards of glass flying into a downtown pedestrian street and injuring 10 people, one of them seriously. "It was a bomb, but we're still not certain what kind it was or how it got there," said a police official at the headquarters which declined to give her name. She said no motive had been established. The blast occurred at the Hungarian central exchange and credit bank on Kaemmer Strasse, the city's main shopping street. The area is a pedestrian zone, and all the injured were passersby hit by flying glass and debris, according to the report.

14 killed in U.S. plane crash

WEYERS CAVE, Virginia (R) — A commuter plane carrying 12 passengers and two crew crashed into the fog-shrouded mountains of Virginia Monday night, killing everyone on board, police said. The aircraft, a twin-engine Beech 99 on a scheduled flight from Baltimore to Washington, hit the side of a mountain on its approach to Weyers Cave, a spokesman said. The plane was owned by Henson Airlines, a wholly owned subsidiary of Piedmont Airlines, which serves a number of cities in Virginia and West Virginia and operates several flights a day from the Washington metropolitan area.

Assad meets Iranian official

DAMASCUS (AP) — An Iranian Foreign Ministry official, Hoss Sheikholeslam, Tuesday met with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad and discussed the Iran-Iraq war and the situation in Lebanon, the official Syrian Arab News Agency reported. The agency said talks were about the situation in the area and issues of common interest. It gave no other details. Tehran Radio said Sunday that Mr. Sheikholeslam, the political under-secretary at the Iranian Foreign Ministry, was travelling to Damascus to mediate in the rival militia clashes in Lebanon's northern port of Tripoli.

Soviet, Turkish ships collide

ANKARA (R) — A Turkish navy frigate was sliced in two in a collision with a Soviet warship in the Bosphorus on Tuesday but all the crew were rescued unhurt, the Anatolian news agency said. It said the accident happened in fog at the Black Sea end of the waterway at 0545 GMT Tuesday morning. The Soviet ship was heading towards the Mediterranean. Neither ship was identified. State radio earlier described the Soviet vessel involved in the collision as a freighter but gave no details.

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King: Jordan may never seek U.S. arms if current proposal is rejected

A Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein has said that if the U.S. Congress failed to approve a planned major sale of arms to Jordan, it could well be the last time Kingdom would ever approach the U.S. for any arms.

In an interview with Newsweek magazine, published yesterday, King Hussein was asked what could happen if the U.S. Congress did not approve the proposal to sell arms to Jordan. The King replied: "I think that I wouldn't be out of place in saying it would be the very last time Jordan would ever approach the U.S. for armament."

"We would have to look elsewhere," the King said. "We had some Soviet equipment purchases, and our chief of staff is in the Soviet Union now, after a longstanding invitation. We have also gone to others in Europe."

The administration of President Ronald Reagan is now putting together an arms package for Jordan and the proposal is expected to go before the House of Representatives and Senate soon. However, there have been a series of protests and opposition by pro-Israeli senators and congressmen to the proposed sale. Senior Reagan aides have been addressing the concerned House of Representatives and Senate committees in a bid to get congressional approval for the sale. But some senators and representatives have taken the view that the proposal could be approved only after Jordan undertakes to open direct peace talks with Israel. The Kingdom has ruled out such talks, reiterating its belief and commitment to work towards an international conference for the Middle East with the participation of all parties involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict and the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council to work out a peace settlement.

In the Newsweek interview, the King was asked how good were the chances for reviving the Middle East peace process activated by the Feb. 11 agreement between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). The King replied: "Things have never been as close as they are now. Palestinians are ready. You have a debate in Israel between people who like peace and people who have other ideas. On the American scene you have the first second-term president (in more than a decade). There is the beginning of a U.S.-Soviet dialogue. It either happens now or the possibilities will deteriorate rapidly... it is the last chance for peace."

Your current initiative began last February when you and Yasser Arafat agreed to the idea of joint Jordanian-Palestinian talks. How much progress has been made since then?

A: I had hoped for a Jordanian-Palestinian-American meeting to set the ground for... U.S. recognition of the PLO as the legitimate, sole representative of the Palestinian people, and in turn, to prepare the ground for the final phase, which is an international

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Focus shifts to King-Reagan talks after cool U.S. response to Mubarak

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The United States has declined to be hurried in the quest for Middle East peace, despite pressure from Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

Mr. Mubarak, who met President Reagan in the White House for an hour on Monday, "made plain he thinks time is wasting and he hopes initiatives can be taken," a senior administration official, who declined to be identified, told reporters afterwards.

The Egyptian president told Mr. Reagan he is "anxious that the process be given a push" but the official added: "We will just have to reserve judgement on timing" (Text of this official's remarks are on page 2).

The U.S. response to Mr. Mubarak's appeals meant that the focus was shifting to Jordan as the administration is trying to find a way around the Middle East deadlock. His Majesty King Hussein is expected to meet Mr. Reagan on Sept. 30.

Mr. Mubarak and King Hussein have urged Washington to set up a meeting with a joint Jordanian-Palestinian group as a first step to broader peace talks.

The meeting has not materialised because of disagreements over which Palestinians to include in the group and because Washington insists that the meeting lead quickly to Arab-Israeli talks.

A thorny issue for the U.S. has

been Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) representation on the joint delegation. Washington has long refused to deal directly with the PLO unless it accepts U.N. Resolutions 242 and 338 recognising Israel's right to exist.

Monday's Mubarak-Reagan meeting apparently did not resolve the two outstanding problems: finding "acceptable" Palestinian representatives and making sure the goal of direct Arab-Israeli negotiations is not swept aside.

American diplomats are being sent to the United Nations in New York this week to hold preliminary talks with King Hussein before the King meet Mr. Reagan next Monday.

Mr. Mubarak said in Monday's meeting that the PLO had implicitly accepted Israel's right to exist and would be more explicit in any meeting with United States representatives, but Washington wanted the PLO to be explicit on that point before a meeting took place, the senior official said.

Only three of a list of seven Palestinians submitted for the proposed meeting were accepted by Washington, but King Hussein had insisted at least four be accepted, U.S. officials said.

Mr. Mubarak was scheduled to be at the United Nations on Tuesday. In Washington he conferred with Treasury Secretary James

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British Mideast steps are right, Howe tells Shamir

UNITED NATIONS (R) — British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe met Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir on Tuesday and defended recent British decisions on Middle East policy against criticism from Israel.

British officials said the meeting, which they called low-key, dealt mainly with British arms sales to Jordan and Saudi Arabia and an invitation to two officials of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to visit London.

The British sources said that, replying to Mr. Shamir's concern about the sale to Saudi Arabia of military equipment worth \$4 billion and \$360 million in weapons to Jordan, Mr. Howe said Britain never considered itself excluded from making such sales to Arab countries.

These countries also should not be obliged to look to the Soviet Union as a principal source of weapons, he said.

On British agreement to the PLO officials taking part in talks with Mr. Howe in London, the foreign secretary told Mr. Shamir the move was designed to encourage the peace process which Jordan and the PLO launched earlier this year.

He said King Hussein had taken considerable risks in trying to

promote a negotiated solution to the Middle East problem, and Britain supported this.

Far from encouraging "terrorism", as Mr. Shamir had suggested, the invitation would encourage the moderate cause generally in the Middle East as well as within the PLO, Mr. Howe said.

According to the sources, Mr. Howe said there did not seem to be significant Palestinian representatives who did not have links with the PLO, and the two PLO members in the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation planned for London were committed to peace and had repudiated "terrorism".

The British sources said Mr. Shamir tried to draw a parallel between the PLO and the Irish Republican Army (IRA).

Mr. Howe replied that while the IRA was banned in Northern Ireland, its political wing, the Sinn Fein, was allowed a part in the political process but had only obtained 10 per cent of the vote.

The PLO had broader support among Palestinians but had no democratic rights such as those enjoyed by Sinn Fein, the sources quoted Mr. Howe as saying.

Mr. Howe and Mr. Shamir are both in New York for the current session of the U.N. General Assembly.

Baker, Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger, and congressmen. An arms package for Jordan may be submitted to Congress before the King's visit. U.S. officials said. It would provide mobile Hawk anti-aircraft missiles and shoulder-fired "Stinger" missiles. Opponents are threatening to try to shelve the deal until Jordan agrees to talk with Israel.

The Feb. 11 Jordan-PLO agreement entails a four-stage process in which the United States would meet with a Jordanian-Palestinian team, the PLO would proclaim its acceptance of Israel, and the United States would begin a dialogue with the PLO.

Negotiations with Israel would be held in the fourth stage, and in an international conference including the Soviet Union.

Most of these terms are unacceptable to the Reagan administration.

Mr. Mubarak is believed to agree with the United States in trying to fence out the Soviets until the end of the process. But he sharply disagrees on the PLO. During a visit here in March he started U.S. officials by wounding a public call for talks with the PLO.

The advice was rejected. In a farewell news conference after that visit, Mr. Mubarak accused the Reagan administration of adopting "a defeatist attitude."

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Palestinian leadership praises British move

By Lamis K. Andoni
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Executive Committee concluded a two-day meeting in Baghdad on Tuesday and issued a statement praising the British decision to invite a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to London for talks in October and describing as "a step forward in the British policy in the Middle East and a big boost for the Feb. 11 accord between Jordan and the PLO."

The Executive Committee's statement summarised the main issues discussed in the Baghdad meeting. Upon concluding a three-day visit to Jordan last week, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher announced that she had invited two PLO Executive Committee members, Mohammad Milhem and Bishop Elias Khouri, as part of a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to London for talks with Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe.

In an interview with the Saudi Arabian newspaper Ashraq Al Awwal on Sunday, PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat said the British step gave a push forward to the Feb. 11 agreement.

The statement issued on Tuesday

Katyushas land in Galilee, cause damage

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Some missiles fired from Lebanon struck at the heart of Israeli settlements in Galilee causing damage, military sources said Tuesday.

The sources said the Soviet-made Katyusha rockets with a caliber of 122 mm struck seven kilometres from the border on Monday night, causing slight damage to property, but no casualties.

The attacks were the first to cause damage since a year before Israel invaded Lebanon in 1982 with the declared aim of ending rocket attacks on its territory.

Last Saturday Israeli troops mounted a seven-hour helicopter and armour attack on villages in South Lebanon alleged to have harboured commandos who launched Katyusha attacks.

Monday's attack was the sixth this month and it raised serious doubts over the "success" claimed by Israel in "eliminating" commando presence near the border.

Leaders of northern settlements demanded an emergency meeting this week with Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin to discuss the mounting rocket attacks.

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His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, on Tuesday addresses officials of the Jordan Radio and Television Corporation (JRTVC) during a visit he made to the corporation (Petra photo)

Jewish settler kills Arab near Jerusalem

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — A Palestinian man was shot dead near the Old City of Jerusalem by an Israeli settler and a five-year-old boy from Gaza and was shot and wounded by Israeli troops on Tuesday.

The settler claimed he shot the Palestinian after the Arab tried to stab the settler's wife, seated in a car outside the Old City. The settler, who was not named, was detained, police said.

In the Gaza incident, Israeli troops shot and wounded a five-year-old boy when they opened fire on a truck which, they claimed, failed to stop at a roadblock.

It was the third time in a week that Israeli soldiers have shot Gazans. The other two shootings have been fatal, killing a five-year-old boy and a teen-age youth.

The Israeli army said the boy was wounded Monday night when soldiers fired on a truck which failed to stop at a military roadblock in the centre of the town of Gaza.

Local Palestinian sources said the boy, five-year-old Omar Ahmad Shihab, was sitting with his father in the doorway of a shop when he was hit in both thighs by bullets.

On Sunday, a five-year-old boy died after Israeli troops fired on

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Rescue work continues in Mexico

MEXICO (R) — Rescuers toiled on in Mexico City on Tuesday, persuaded by tales of several miraculous escapes that, even after five days, a few people entombed in the earthquake rubble remain alive.

They conceded that there was scarcely any hope. But at the collapsed Nuevo Leon apartment block, seen on Monday by President Reagan's wife Nancy, a woman of 70 was pulled out alive early on Monday.

A 24-year-old medical student, Jose Juan Hernandez Cruz, was dug out of the Juarez Hospital near the city centre after nearly 100 hours under rubble.

So the rescue workers, backed by experts from abroad and equipment sent by more than 20 countries, tunnelling on under the ruins of apartment blocks, schools and hospitals.

Thursday's earthquake killed at least 6,000 people and probably many more.

Doctors said it was possible people could be found alive even after a few more days, depending on their physical condition at the time of the disaster. If they had enough air, the chief dangers would be hunger and thirst.

The dramatic Juarez Hospital rescue was carried out by Mexican and French rescuers, with a Frenchman, named by Red Cross workers as Bernard Ganiaveng, making the final breakthrough late on Sunday night, touching the young student's fingertips after many hours of tunnelling.

Around dawn on Monday, he finally crawled out of the tunnel to safety. Just before he was taken away to hospital for checks, he managed to tell rescuers it was his 24th birthday.

Thousands of homeless Mexicans live one day at a time, page 8

Syrians press for Tripoli truce as battles rage on

TRIPOLI, Lebanon (Agencies) — Shells and rockets crashed into the north Lebanese port of Tripoli on Tuesday as Syrian army officers tried to end a 10-day battle between rival militias that has caused hundreds of casualties.

A delegation led by General Mustafa Faroussi, deputy commander of Syrian forces in Lebanon, was expected to bring together officials of the Sunni Islamic Unification Movement (Tawheed) and the pro-Syrian Arab Democratic Party (ADP) to agree on a settlement, political sources told Reuters.

Police estimate about 200 people have been killed and 500 wounded in the fighting which has devastated wide areas of Tripoli, Lebanon's second largest city, forcing an estimated 250,000 of its 700,000 people to flee to the countryside.

Shells and clusters of rockets hit the city overnight, and sporadic artillery fire continued into the morning.

Tawheed chief Sheikh Saeed Shaaban said that in talks with the Syrians Monday night, his movement had agreed the Lebanese army should take control of the city, backed by Syrian troops.

Brigadier Ghazi Kanaan, head of Syrian military intelligence in Lebanon, told reporters the proposed settlement included deployment of Syrian and Lebanese troops in five key points in Tripoli, collection of arms from rival militias and an end to Tawheed's two-year supremacy in the city.

"You are not gods on earth. No-one chose you to rule Tripoli," the Syrians are said to have told Tawheed officials. "When we collect arms, it will be real control, not apparent."

The ADP Arabian Knights militiamen and Tawheed launched night-long attacks and counterattacks along the demarcation line in the heart of the port city, police said.

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Moscow wants normal ties with U.S. — Shevardnadze

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — The Soviet Union wants to build normal, stable relations with the United States and looks for a successful outcome of the November summit meeting between the two nations' leaders, Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze said Tuesday.

"It remains to be seen what will be the attitude of the other side in this matter," he said in his first address to the U.N. General Assembly.

"We are convinced that the Soviet-American summit meeting should focus on the most important problem of today — the problem whose solution would indeed make it possible to reduce decisively the danger of war, restore international trust and create prerequisites for resolving many other pressing issues in relations among states," he said.

Mr. Shevardnadze declared

Regent calls for information back-up for 5-year plan

SALT (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, said Tuesday His Majesty King Hussein is keen on seeing Jordan's voice reaching all parts of the world.

Jordan, the Crown Prince said, is going ahead with plans to improve its telecommunications systems to achieve that goal.

Addressing a meeting with the director and staff of the Jordan Radio and Television Corporation (JRTVC), Prince Hassan said JRTVC is now in the process of implementing a new five-year development plan and, therefore, information services should be available at the highest level to serve the plan's objectives.

Prince Hassan said many Arab broadcasting stations had benefited a great deal from the services of Jordanian technicians and broadcasters who helped both in the establishment of their radio stations and operating them.

Referring to development progress in Jordan, Prince Hassan referred to a report on Jordan's economy prepared by the World Bank which said that the gross national income exceeded the 11.5 per cent mark, the world's highest.

The information sector in Jordan can play a unique role in the process of implementing Jordan's development projects because the information media can reach all citizens in all regions, Prince Hassan said.

At the outset of Tuesday's meeting, JRTVC Director General Nasouh Al Majali made a speech thanking Prince Hassan for his visit. Mr. Majali said programmes have been laid for modernising and improving radio and television facilities and programmes.

Prince Hassan was met upon arrival at the corporation by Information Minister Mohammad Al Khatib and senior corporation officials.

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Walters 'made secret visit' to Syria over hostage issue

NEW YORK (AP) — Vernon Walters, the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, made a secret visit to Syria to gain the release of the Rev. Benjamin Weir, an American held captive in Lebanon for 16 months, NBC news has reported.

Gen. Walters met with Syria's President Hafez Assad for four hours, the U.S. T.V. network said in the report, which cited no sources. It also did not state when Gen. Walters met with Mr. Assad.

Irene Payne, a press spokeswoman at the U.N. mission to the U.N., had no comment on the report and said Gen. Walters would go no further than he had at his news conference Thursday, when he explained why he was not at the Sept. 17 opening of the U.N. General Assembly.

When asked why he was not at the opening, Gen. Walters replied that he was on a mission for his government, but he refused to elaborate. The U.N. mission had said at the time that Gen. Walters wasn't there because he was out of

the country. Rev. Weir was freed on Sept. 14 by his Lebanese kidnappers.

The Washington Post reported in its Tuesday edition that the Shi'ite captors of the six Americans still held in Lebanon may release the remaining six hostages if Kuwait agrees to free the two Lebanese Shi'ite who are among 17 convicted terrorists imprisoned there.

The Post quoted a well-placed Arab diplomatic source that there have been indications of such a compromise from the Shi'ite captors, who previously have demanded that all 17 terrorists be freed.

The source also said there were "indications" that the Shi'ite captors want a way out of the impasse

because of mounting Arab pressure, particularly from Syria, the Post said.

The United States has consistently ruled out negotiations with terrorists, but last week, State Department spokesman Bernard Kalb said, "We are willing to discuss the safety of the American hostages."

At the time, the spokesman had refused to elaborate or to say whether U.S. diplomats had such discussions before Rev. Weir's release.

Six other Americans remain captive in Lebanon. They are Terry Anderson, chief Middle East correspondent for the Associated Press; William Buckley, U.S. embassy political officer; Peter Kilburn, a librarian at the American University of Beirut; the Rev. Lawrence Janco, a Roman Catholic priest; David Jacobson, director of the American University Hospital; and Thomas Sutherland, dean of agriculture at the university.



REGENT OPENS CONFERENCE: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan on Tuesday opens a conference on the various archaeological and historical aspects of the ancient Nabatean city of Petra (Story on page 3)

U.S. hopes direct Arab-Israeli negotiations could begin this year

WASHINGTON (USA) — The United States hopes direct negotiations between Israel and the Arab side could begin before the end of the year, a senior administration official has said.

Speaking to reporters after an hour-long meeting between President Ronald Reagan and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, the official Monday declared, "Our eye is very much on direct negotiations." He described Mr. Mubarak as "anxious that the peace process be given a push."

The Egyptian president, the official added, "strongly believes the United States should find a way to stimulate the process, to get things moving."

The official declined to give specifics about the conversation between Mr. Reagan and his guest, noting that the Mubarak visit falls in the week before the president meets with King Hussein.

King Hussein, after a meeting last February with Mr. Yasser Arafat, leader of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), proposed a preliminary conference involving the United States, in a session with a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

The official said President Mubarak told Mr. Reagan he "very much" hopes such a meeting could take place before year's end. While noting that the United States must "reserve judgment," since the meeting with King Hussein is yet to take place, the official said Washington recalled that "this was described initially as the 'year of opportunity' by our Arab friends... last spring. We would like to see it start as quickly as possible. We don't rule out, none of us should rule out, meetings before the end of this year."

The official added Washington's "eye is very much on

direct negotiations (between Israel and the Arab side), noting that various ideas have been suggested "to get to direct negotiations." He said Washington "hopes direct negotiations could begin by the end of this year."

The official described Mr. Mubarak as being conscious that "time is wasting" and said the Egyptian leader told Mr. Reagan he "hopes initiatives can be taken" to advance the peace process. "This was a meeting," the official pointed out, "between two men who are looking to find a way to move ahead in the peace process."

One of the current sticking points in that process is the PLO's refusal to explicitly endorse United Nations Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, which recognise Israel's right to exist within secure borders. The official said Mr. Reagan again stated Washington's willingness to meet with PLO representatives once the organisation "clearly accepted" the two resolutions.

He said Mr. Mubarak stressed the importance of Feb. 11 agree-

ment and noted the PLO has "already implicitly accepted" the U.N. resolutions. The official said Mr. Mubarak told Mr. Reagan explicit acceptance would come from the PLO in the course of the peace dialogue.

Asked if the United States believes the PLO has accepted the resolutions, the official said, "we have never heard this explicitly from the PLO."

He noted King Hussein has spoken of the readiness of the PLO to accept the resolutions, and said "there has been talk" of the PLO accepting "all pertinent" United Nations resolutions. He said Washington's request to the PLO was very plain, and he called on the PLO once again to "equally plain."

Earlier, in a photo session, Mr. Reagan was asked if he would advance any new proposals to break the seeming logjam in the peace process, before the Likud coalition reclaims the prime minister's office in Israel. He said he would not comment specifically, but added, "that will be obviously one of our great concerns."

Tunisian planes scramble to intercept Libyan jets

TUNIS (R) — Tunisian Air Force planes scrambled to intercept four Libyan Mirage fighters which intruded 50 kilometres into Tunisian airspace, the official TAP news agency has said.

The Libyan planes flew over the southern Tunisian military base of Remada twice in pairs, TAP said Monday.

Tunisia has accused Libyan planes of violating its air space on several occasions during a crisis caused by Tripoli's expulsion of more than 30,000 Tunisian mig-

rant workers since early last month.

The expulsions have now slowed to a trickle but relations between the two North African neighbours remain tense.

Last month Tunisia expelled 283 Libyans, including most of Tripoli's diplomats in Tunis, on spying charges. TAP said Tunis had protested to Libya over the burning last weekend of a car belonging to a Tunisian diplomatic mission in Tripoli.

Iran releases Cypriot cargo ship

TEHRAN (R) — Iran said Tuesday it had freed a Cypriot ship seized last Thursday and said it was likely to hold a Danish vessel detained three days ago for several days.

The National News Agency IRNA quoted Navy Commander Capt. Mohammad Hussein Makhadmeh as saying the Cypriot-flag Mithridatis was released at 0730 GMT Monday after its cargo had been checked.

He said there was nothing in the cargo that could militarily help Iraq, which has been at war with Iran for five years.

IRNA quoted the commander as saying four containers of military hardware bound for Iraq had been found aboard the Danish container ship Arnold Maersk, seized three days ago.

It would take the navy several days to finish inspecting the 30,468-ton vessel, he said.

Its operators, the A.P. Moeller Group, said Monday in Copenhagen the ship was carrying no weapons or munitions, but declined to give details of its cargo.

Capt. Makhadmeh said an average of 15 ships a day passed through the Strait of Hormuz at the entrance to the Gulf and any vessel carrying military supplies for Iraq would be escorted to an Iranian Gulf port for thorough inspection.

He said last Sunday that Iran had questioned, inspected or seized 42 ships suspected of carrying cargo for Iraq in recent days.

The IRNA report made no mention of the Japanese-registered Togo Maru, seized last Friday and diverted to the southern port of Bandar Abbas.

A Japanese embassy spokesman said Monday the captain had teleaxed the embassy to say the 27-man crew were safe.

Abu Nidal group threatens to kill Milhem, Khoury

DAMASCUS (AP) — The radical Palestinian Abu Nidal commando faction on Tuesday threatened to assassinate two Palestinian members of a joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation if they accept an invitation by British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher to visit London.

A spokesman for the group told the Associated Press office here that they have decided "to shed the blood of Mohammad Milhem and Bishop Elia Khoury if they do not announce immediately their refusal to go to London with a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation."

Mrs. Thatcher invited a joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation to visit London during her talks last week in Amman with King Hussein. No date for the visit has yet been set.

"As Mrs. Thatcher and King Hussein agreed to send a joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation to London, and as Mrs. Thatcher has personally selected Mohammad Milhem and Elia Khoury as acceptable in the U.K., we warn

these two against participating in this 'treason' which is a criminal act against our people's cause," the spokesman said by telephone. He asked his name be withheld. "We announce to our Palestinian people, to the Arab nation and to the press that we have decided to shed the blood of these two in case they do not heed this warning and the will of our people in continuing the armed struggle," against Israel, he said.

Mr. Milhem and Bishop Khoury are members of the Palestine National Council (PNC), the Palestinian parliament. They were elected to the 12-member Executive Committee, the PLO's ruling body, during the PNC meeting in Amman on November 1984.

They both live in Jordan after being expelled from the Israeli-occupied West Bank because Israel maintains they incited anti-Israeli sentiment among the Arab population.

Mr. Milhem was former mayor of the West Bank town of Halhoul. Bishop Khoury is assistant Bishop of Jerusalem of the Anglican Church.

Peres' efforts fail to end Falasha sit-in against rabbis

TEL AVIV (AP) — Prime Minister Shimon Peres failed Tuesday to mediate an end to a 21-day sit-in by Ethiopian immigrants protesting rabbinical rulings that they take a ritual bath before marriage.

In a 50-minute meeting, the rabbis took the unprecedented step of authorising a premier to negotiate a compromise on an issue of Jewish law.

The protesters are among thousands of Ethiopian Jews who were brought to Israel from their famine-stricken country in a secret airlift last year. The Ethiopians are recognised as members of a lost branch of Judaism.

They are unhappy with a rabbinical requirement in Israel that

they undergo immersion to renew their covenant with mainstream Judaism and have accused the rabbis of racial discrimination.

After Mr. Peres' intervention in July, the rabbis reduced their demands to a ritual bath. The Ethiopians felt even this is an insult to their adherence to Judaism for thousands of years. They want the entire dipping procedure dropped, said spokesman Adisu Masala, 25, of Tel Aviv.

Mr. Peres, in a 15-minute discussion with three Ethiopian leaders after speaking to the rabbis, failed to persuade the nearly 500 demonstrators to pack up their tents and tag-tag belongings and end their protest before Yom Kippur, or the Jewish day of atonement, begins at sundown.

Egyptian, Israeli aides to discuss Taba issue

CAIRO (Agencies) — Egypt and Israel will meet in Cairo on Thursday to discuss a long-standing dispute over the small Sinai desert enclave of Taba, Egyptian Foreign Ministry sources said Tuesday.

The United States will attend the talks. A spokesman for the U.S. embassy in Cairo said both sides had asked Washington to participate.

The Israeli team will be headed by Avraham Tamir, director general of Prime Minister Shimon Peres' office and the Egyptians by Deputy Foreign Minister Abdul Halim Badawi, the sources said.

The two countries have held several inconclusive rounds of talks on the 700-metre coastal strip retained by Israel after it pulled out of Sinai in 1982.

Both sides claim sovereignty over Taba and Egypt wants the dispute, which is delaying a summit meeting between Mr. Peres and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, to be settled by arbitration.

Mr. Mubarak last week reported progress on the dispute but said he could not be more specific. Israel's coalition government is

divided over Taba, with Mr. Peres favouring arbitration in order to pave the way for a summit. His Labour Party has threatened to force new elections unless the right-wing Likud Bloc backs him.

Meanwhile Israeli Acting Foreign Minister Moshe Arens has asked Mr. Peres to ensure that the two top officials visiting Egypt later this week are not authorised to agree to arbitration over the Taba dispute, Israel Radio said Monday.

An official said on Sunday the two civil servants would propose a territorial compromise as a possible solution to the sovereignty over the one-square-kilometre beach resort area.

The radio said Mr. Arens, who is deputising for absent Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, had asked Mr. Peres to restrict the officials' authority so that they could not sign an arbitration agreement with Egypt.

Mr. Peres and Mr. Shamir decided to send their top civil servants to Egypt as a way of overcoming a coalition deadlock between their parties over how to resolve the sovereignty issue.

Saudi Prince to sign arms deal with U.K.

RIYADH (R) — Saudi Defence Minister Prince Sultan bin Abdul Aziz begins an official visit to Britain Wednesday during which he is expected to sign a \$4.3 billion military aircraft purchase agreement.

The deal, clinched after lengthy secret talks, is believed to cover the sale of 48 European-made Tornado fighter-bombers and 30 Hawk trainers.

British Defence Secretary Michael Heseltine is thought to have paid at least two secret visits to Saudi Arabia to help close the deal, informed sources in Riyadh said Tuesday.

It will give Britain a major stake in Saudi defence well into the 21st Century, British defence sources said in London recently.

"Prince Sultan's visit... crowns and old friendship between Britain and Saudi Arabia," Mr. Hes-

eltine told the Saudi newspaper As-Saqr Al-Awsat in an interview published Tuesday.

Britain has benefitted from political constraints on U.S. arms exports to Arab countries prompted by fears the weapons could be used against Israel, Riyadh sources said.

By deciding to deal with Britain, ordering Tornados instead of U.S. F-15s whose use would have been restricted by Washington, the Saudis averted a confrontation with the "Jewish lobby" in the U.S. Congress, the sources said.

The arms deal, coupled with last week's announcement by Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher that two Palestine Liberation Organisation leaders have been invited to official talks in London, boosted Britain's image in Arab countries, they added.

Baghdad meeting decides to establish arms company

BAGHDAD (Petra) — The Arab Economists' Union (AEU) has decided to establish an Arab company for manufacturing weapons to enhance the Arab nation's security and also to establish a pan-Arab Agricultural Bank.

The decisions were announced at the closing session of an AEU meeting here late Monday.

A statement issued at the end of the meeting voiced AEU's total support for the Palestinian people and pledged material and moral support for those under occupation, "struggling to regain their legitimate rights and establish their independent state on Palestinian soil."

The statement also called on the Arab countries to take immediate

deterrent measures to stop Iran from committing acts of piracy against commercial ships in the Gulf region.

The statement also called on all Arab states to join the Arab Common Market and to sign the Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU) agreement in order to bolster inter-Arab economic cooperation.

Taking part in the meeting were Jordan, Kuwait, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Morocco, Tunisia, Palestine, Algeria, Lebanon, the Arab Organisation for Industrial Development, the Arab Organisation for Agricultural Development and the Economic Commission for Western Asia (ECWA).

TV & RADIO

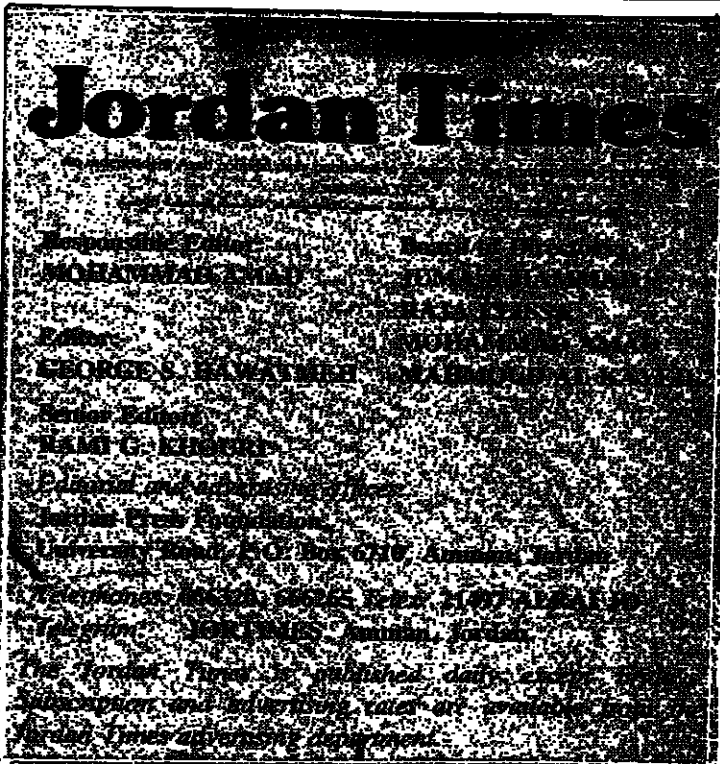
JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 773111-19	BBC WORLD SERVICE 639, 720, 1413 KHz
MAIN CHANNEL	07:00 Newsday 07:30 Waveguide 07:40
17:00 Cartoons	07:45 Newsday 08:00 World News
17:25 Children's Programmes	08:05 24 Hours: News Summary 08:30
18:30 Sport	What's New 08:45 The World Today
19:30 Programme Review	09:00 Newsday 09:30 Onibus 09:40
20:00 News in Arabic	World News 09:50 24 Hours: News
20:40 Arabic Series	Summary 10:30 The Falconer's Tale
21:40 Programme Review	10:45 That's The Trid 11:00 World News
21:50 Poetry	11:05 Reflections 11:15 Classical Recital
22:15 Arabic Series	Review 11:30 Only By Women
23:00 News in Arabic	12:00 World News 12:30 24 Hours: News
	Summary 12:35 The World Today 12:30
FOREIGN CHANNEL	Financial News 12:40 Derby Review
18:00 French Programme: Les me-	12:45 Kitten on the Keys 12:50 News
19:00 News in French	Summary: Discovery 12:50 Promenade Con-
19:15 Varieties: le dictionnaire de Bouvard	cert 12:55 The Fanning World 22:00
19:30 News in Hebrew	14:25 A Letter from Wales 14:30 Meridian
20:00 News in Arabic	15:00 Radio Newsday 15:15 D.H. Lawrence 15:25 The Farming World
20:30 Three's Company	15:30 Sports Round 15:40 World
21:10 Documentary: Romantic Spirit	News 16:00 24 Hours: News Summary
22:00 News in English	16:30 Music from the Movies 17:00
22:30 Magnum	News Summary: Outlook 17:45 The
	Sacred Choir 18:00 Radio Newsday
RADIO JORDAN	18:15 A Gift of God 18:30 After Hour
855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM	19:00 World News 19:00 Commentary
& partly on 9560 KHz, SW	19:15 Counterpoint 19:45 A Letter
Tel: 774111-19	from the World 20:15 Monitor 20:30
	Assignment 20:35 Waveguide 20:40
07:00 Light Music	Book Choice 20:45 Sports Round-up
07:30 Newsday	21:00 Newsday 21:30 Promenade Con-
08:00 Morning Show	cert 21:35 The Fanning World 22:00
08:30 News Summary	News Summary: Outlook 22:00 Out-
09:00 Morning Show Contd.	look 22:00 World News 22:00 24 Hours:
11:00 Pop Session	News Summary 22:15 Album Time
12:00 News Summary	22:30 Assignment 22:40 News Sum-
12:30 Pop Session Contd.	mary: Personal Story 09:15 Inter-
13:00 News Summary	national Soccer Special 09:45 Rec-
13:30 Pop Session	ording of the Week 09:50 A Letter from
14:00 News Bulletin	the World 10:00 Financial News 01:40
14:30 The Young Sound	Reflections 01:45 Financial News 01:40
14:50 Concert Hour	Reflections 01:45 Financial News 01:40
15:00 News Summary	Reflections 01:45 Financial News 01:40
15:30 Newsday	Reflections 01:45 Financial News 01:40
16:00 Newsday	Reflections 01:45 Financial News 01:40
16:30 Newsday	Reflections 01:45 Financial News 01:40
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23:30 Newsday	Reflections 01:45 Financial News 01:40
24:00 Newsday	Reflections 01:45 Financial News 01:40

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS	CHURCHES
EXHIBITION	St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic)
* An exhibition of great works of Victor Hugo, daily at the French Cultural Centre.	Jabal Amman, Tel. 624590.
* An exhibition of paintings and drawings by Wendy Powell at the British Council (during library hours).	Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Luvabidh, 637440.
* Third Turkish Industry and Trade Exhibition at the Jordan International Hotel.	De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein, 661757.
PLAY	Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, 623541.
* "A Doll's House" by Henrik Ibsen daily at 7:30 p.m. at the Royal Cultural Centre.	Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman, 678906.
FILM	French Cultural Centre, 671331.
* "The Space Odyssey" at 7:00 p.m. at the American Centre.	Goethe Institute, 641993.
CINEMA	Soviet Cultural Centre, 644203.
* "L'homme qui rit" at 7:45 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre.	Spanish Cultural Centre, 624049.
CULTURAL CENTRES	Y.W.C.A., 664051.
Royal Cultural Centre, Tel: 661026/7	Armenian Cultural Centre, 637111.
American Centre, 644371	Hays Arts Centre, 665192.
British Council, 636147/8	Hussien Youth City, 667181/6.
French Cultural Centre, 671331	Y.W.C.A., 641793.
Goethe Institute, 641993	Armenian Municipal Library, 637111.
Soviet Cultural Centre, 644203	University of Jordan Library, 843555.
Spanish Cultural Centre, 624049	
Y.W.C.A., 664051	
Armenian Cultural Centre, 637111	
University of Jordan Library, 843555	
MUSEUMS	
Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.	
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qai'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	
PRAYER TIMES	
05:45 Fajr	
06:25 Sunrise	
12:25 Dhuhr	
15:25 Asr	
18:25 Maghreb	
19:25 Isha	

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	ARRIVALS
This information is supplied by Alia information department at the Queen Alia International Airport. Tel: (08) 53200-3, where it should always be verified.	18:30 Baghdad (IA)
	19:30 Kuwait (RJ)
	20:00 Damascus (RJ)
	20:40 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
	21:00 Cairo (RJ)
	21:10 Baghdad (RJ)
	21:15 Jeddah (RJ)
	21:30 Abu Dhabi (RJ)
	22:00 Sana'a (RJ)
	22:40 Karachi (PK)
	00:30 Rio, Lisbon (IA)
	MARITIME TRAFFIC
	06:30 Cairo (MS)
	07:25 London, Larnaca (BA)
	08:20 Karachi (PK)
	08:30 Agaba (RJ)
	08:40 Kuwait (RJ)
	09:30 Sana'a (RJ)
	10:30 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
	10:40 Cairo (RJ)
	10:45 Jeddah (RJ)
	10:50 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
	11:00 Dhahran (RJ)
	12:15 Belgrade (RJ)
	13:40 London (RJ)
	14:30 Bahrain (RJ)
	14:35 Kuwait (RJ)
	16:10 Jeddah (SV)
	16:15 Larnaca (RJ)
	16:25 Beirut (MEA)
	18:15 Larnaca (RJ)
	18:15 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
	18:30 Paris, Damascus (AF)
	18:35 Cairo (RJ)
	18:35 Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RJ)
	DEPARTURES
	07:20 Cairo (MS)
	07:25 London, Larnaca (BA)
	08:20 Karachi (PK)
	08:30 Agaba (RJ)
	08:40 Kuwait (RJ)
	09:30 Sana'a (RJ)
	10:30 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
	10:40 Cairo (RJ)
	10:45 Jeddah (RJ)
	10:50 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
	11:00 Dhahran (RJ)
	12:15 Belgrade (RJ)
	13:40 London (RJ)
	14:30 Bahrain (RJ)
	14:35 Kuwait (RJ)
	16:10 Jeddah (SV)
	16:15 Larnaca (RJ)
	16:25 Beirut (MEA)
	18:15 Larnaca (RJ)
	18:15 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
	18:30 Paris, Damascus (AF)
	18:35 Cairo (RJ)



Our security comes first

HIS MAJESTY King Hussein made it clear in an interview published in *Newsweek* magazine yesterday that Jordan would have to look elsewhere for its arms requirements if the United States Congress blocked the sale of arms to Jordan. The King told *Newsweek*, on the eve of his visit to the United Nations and his talks with President Reagan on Sept. 30, that if the U.S. Congress took such a move, it could well be "the very last time Jordan would ever approach the United States for armaments."

On earlier occasions, U.S. legislators vetoed moves to sell Jordan American arms, and the King's statement yesterday clearly demonstrates that Jordan is determined to pursue efforts for providing its Armed Forces with modern arms, whether the supplies come from the United States or any other country. The King also indicated that Jordan might purchase arms from the Soviet Union as it did in the past and drew attention to the fact the chief of staff, Lt. Gen. Fathi Abu Taleh, is at present paying an official visit to the Soviet Union after a longstanding invitation from Moscow.

On many occasions, King Hussein pledged to seek every possible means for modernising the Armed Forces and providing them with advanced weapons to defend themselves. His statement to *Newsweek* bears witness to Jordan's determination to do so, although that does not mean that we will abandon the diplomatic approach to find a just and durable solution to the Palestinian problem.

The talks between President Reagan, on the one hand, and King Hussein and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, on the other hand, will be dominated by these related questions. But just in case somebody forgets or chooses to ignore the facts on the ground, it should be emphasised that Jordan is very serious about the issue of acquiring weapons required for its army while at the same time it continues to pursue all the diplomatic means at its disposal to bring about peace and justice to this region.

If the U.S. Congress allows itself to be manipulated by the Israeli lobby in Capitol Hill and elsewhere, let it be so. Only time will show the honourable gentlemen their grave mistake. In the meantime, nothing will stand in the way of Jordan acquiring the arms it needs, whether from Europe, the Soviet Union or any other source around the world. Our national security stands at the top of our priorities. Nobody, not the U.S. Congress nor anybody else, has the right to veto our legitimate needs to self-defence.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: The last chance

IN AN INTERVIEW with the American magazine *Newsweek* King Hussein reiterated his belief that the time is now ripe for undertaking meaningful action to resolve the Middle East problem.

The King said that the Jordan-PLO accord of Feb. 11 represents a good opportunity which might be the last chance for the parties involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict to get down to business and talk about the future of their region for the sake of reaching a lasting peace.

Jordan's position has lately been strengthened with an announcement by Mrs. Margaret Thatcher of Britain's plans to convene a meeting between the British Foreign Secretary and a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to discuss the issue. This step means the Arabs have now won the support of the European Community and that a major obstacle has been removed from the path to peace.

When King Hussein said this is the last chance for peace, he also made it clear that the Arabs have genuine desire to achieve that peace and that they are willing to embark immediately on a dialogue with the United States prior to convening an international conference to handle the issue.

Israel's defeat in Lebanon and its heavy losses there brought the Israeli society back to its senses and many voices are being raised now inside this society demanding peace because they have realised that peace can not be attained through aggression.

Al Dustour: U.S. responsibility

KING HUSSEIN has made it clear in his interview with the American magazine *Newsweek* that unless the present chance of establishing peace in the Middle East is exploited the door will be open for more violence and to further deterioration in the situation.

The statement which reiterated Jordan's view assumes special importance, coming on the eve of King Hussein's talks with President Reagan to discuss the Arab-Israeli conflict. The next step for achieving a real progress towards peace depends on the U.S. administration alone, which should stop procrastinating and delaying the planned dialogue with the Jordanians and the Palestinians.

If the United States continues to fail to take a meaningful action towards establishing peace, it will be failing in its duty as a superpower to help achieve that end, but if it continues to extend unlimited support and assistance to Israel it will be encouraging the Zionist state to pursue its aggressive policies, which in turn, invite more extremism and more violence in our region.

The Middle East is now at crossroads and the United States holds a responsibility towards steering it into the path of peace not to more violence and more conflict.

Sawt Al Shaab: King rallies for peace

KING HUSSEIN is serious in mobilising all nations efforts including those of the United States towards achieving peace in our region and ending the Arab-Israeli conflict.

On the eve of his meeting with President Reagan, the King reiterated that the Arabs seek to establish peace and said that the Jordanian-PLO accord represented a last attempt to attain such peace, otherwise the Middle East will be exposed to extremism, violence and all forms of danger.

The King made all this clear in his interview with the American *Newsweek* magazine in which he said that the whole world was now oriented towards peace including the Israeli society itself where voices had been raised demanding an end to war.

The King's statement assumes importance in view of the backing to the Jordanian-PLO efforts on the part of Britain and the forthcoming summit meeting between the two superpowers during which major world issues including the Arab-Israeli conflict are bound to be discussed.

The Jordanian-PLO accord of Feb. 11 provides for a real and lasting peace to be established through an international conference. King Hussein also made it clear that Jordan was determined to find modern weapons anywhere in the world if the U.S. Congress fails to agree on selling Jordan American arms.

The King said Jordan will go to other countries because it needs arms to safeguard its national interests.

U.S. recognition of PLO is long overdue

By Hermann Eilts

The writer is a former U.S. ambassador to Egypt. His article is reprinted from "Facing the PLO Question", a booklet published recently by the Washington-based Foundation for Middle East Peace. The booklet contained two more articles that tackled the same question of who should speak for the Palestinians. Those two articles appeared in yesterday's *Jordan Times*.

FOR FIVE years now, the Arab-Israeli peace process has stagnated. Tragically, the momentum achieved under the Nixon, Ford and Carter administrations has been lost. Blame for this sad state of affairs is diffuse, but one major cause has been inability to co-opt mutually acceptable and representative Palestinian participation.

Whether one likes it or not, the Palestinian component of the Arab-Israeli problem has been and remains the core issue. To ignore this is myopic. If renewed progress toward a comprehensive Middle East peace is to be sought, the Palestinian issue needs to be seriously addressed. Despite "lip" service to the need for a Palestinian settlement, the U.S. has for too long adopted an ostrich-like stance toward the issue. We, like Israel, but for less comprehensible reasons, have been paranoic on the subject. To continue to be so will only add to the already formidable obstacles to reviving the peace process. Not only will it lead to further deterioration of the Middle East situation, but also to an erosion of American interests in the area. Some meaningful U.S. dialogue with the Palestinians, in order to co-opt them into the peace process, is imperative. The salient question remains: Is dialogue with the PLO relevant to such a purpose or not?

Of the multiple aspects of the Palestinian problem, five are especially pertinent to the current impasse: a) the Kissinger commitment of 1975 to Israel; b) the "Framework for Peace in the Middle East" document, signed at Camp David on September 17, 1978; c) the current disarray within the Palestinian national movement and its effects on prospects of co-opting non-PLO Palestinian participants; d) the Israeli position on the PLO; and e) the question of whether U.S. interests are served by dealing with the PLO, at least with Yasser Arafat's Al Fatah organization. No less important, can the latter constructively negotiate or is it mired in its own framework of rigidities? This still has to be probed.

The Kissinger Commitment

As part of the political price paid to Israel for accepting the Sinai II disengagement agreement of 1975, then Secretary of State Henry Kissinger gave a commitment that the U.S. would not engage in dialogue with the PLO unless and until the latter recognised U.N. Resolution 242 and Israel's right to exist. His purpose was understandable; yet, giving such a written commitment was regrettable. It has ever since been the major vulnerability in the American capacity to play an optimal mediator's role between the Arabs as a whole and Israel. It was made because Kissinger, like the late President Sadat, badly needed an agreement after the abortive March negotiations of that year. A second failure would have been disastrous for the U.S. image in the Middle East. The commitment was given without Sadat's knowledge; indeed, the Egyptian leadership, when its contents were later dribbled to it, was deeply disturbed. By then, however, it had no choice but to accept what had been done.

Kissinger maintained at the time that this commitment to Israel still allowed optimal U.S. flexibility. Should the U.S. deem it in its interests to engage in dialogue with the PLO, it was free to do so after consultation with Israel. The contention, so far so good, was intended to be, was not accepted by subsequent American administrations or by Israel. They read the commitment in "strict constructionist" terms and as a binding constraint. Hence, the Carter administration's legally grounded effort, in August of 1977, to devise a formula that the PLO would issue, consistent with the Kissinger commitment, thereby enabling the U.S. to engage in political dialogue with the PLO. The formula, which included PLO acceptance of U.N. Resolution 242, acknowledged the political inadequacy for Palestinians of the "refugee" language of that resolution and recognised the right of Israel to exist. Accepted in principle by Arafat, following Egyptian and Saudi urgings, it was rejected by the PLO Executive Council after intense Syrian pressure. A golden opportunity was lost by the PLO on that occasion — thanks to Syrian obstructionism.

Some suggest that the Kissinger commitment should simply be shelved. For the sake of Middle East peace, one might wish it had never entered into, but it represents a solemn obligation contracted by this country, which should not be unilaterally ignored. Ways must be found of working within at least the spirit of that

obligation. Jettisoning the Kissinger commitment would only impugn the credibility of U.S. assurances. In the Middle East, these are already badly frayed. Further tarnishing of the American image for reliability should be avoided. The aforementioned 1977 formula, which gave Palestinians the opportunity to specify what they considered to be politically needed balance to the generic "refugee" language of U.N. Resolution 242, would still be a sensible way to proceed. If internal PLO political dynamics made this possible. It would not commit any other party to their concepts, but would make these an appropriate agenda item for discussion. Granted, agenda formation has in the past been contentious, but all options must be on the table in any serious settlement process.

The Camp David Commitment

Article A-1 of the "Framework for Peace in the Middle East," signed at Camp David in 1978, stipulates that West Bank and Gaza Palestinians may participate in Jordanian and Egyptian delegations to negotiate an autonomous, self-governing body in those occupied territories. There is no specific prohibition on such Palestinians being adherents of the PLO, although Israel has repeatedly indicated it will not deal with active or prominent PLO members. Diaspora Palestinians are implicitly excluded from participation in autonomy negotiations, whose sole purpose is to structure a five-year transitional regime and to prepare for a second-stage negotiations on the final disposition of these occupied territories. An earlier draft of that agreement had included a stipulation that the issue of diaspora Palestinians be decided at some future date through an international conference, but this was eventually dropped at Israel's insistence. Camp David thus ignored completely the issue of the diaspora Palestinians.

Israel has always insisted these should be assimilated into host Arab countries; the U.S., until recently, has favoured some kind of negotiated implementation of U.N. Resolution 194 of 1949, calling for repatriation or compensation of Palestinian refugees, the latter precedent to resettlement elsewhere. The Reagan administration, which has not specifically endorsed any repatriation or compensation concept, is believed to favour host country absorption of Palestinian refugees, if it has thought about this aspect of the problem.

It was precisely the inadequacy of the Camp David agreement in dealing with the totality of the Palestinian problem that made it unacceptable, not only to Palestinians, but to Arabs at large. Intensive post-Camp David efforts by the U.S., Egypt and Israel to co-opt West/Gaza Palestinian into proposed autonomy negotiations got nowhere. There were Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza who, while decrying the autonomy concept, believed it prudent to participate in negotiations. Failure to do so, they feared, would lose for them any voice in the determination of their own future. Save for one, the so-called Imam of Gaza, Muhammad Khazdar, none was prepared to act without PLO approval. Khazdar, who was persuaded by the Egyptians to endorse the Camp David agreements and to lead a Palestinian delegation to Cairo, was assassinated by fellow Gazans as a traitor to the Palestinian cause. This was a potent deterrent which Israel, despite its occupation of the territory, was unable to prevent.

In the occupied West Bank, Israeli leaders, knowledgeable of Palestinian attitudes, like Weizman and Dayan, and, separately, visiting American officials strongly urged Palestinians to participate, but without success. Conceivably, had King Hussein joined autonomy negotiations, as envisioned in the Camp David agreement, some of his West Bank partisans might have joined a Jordanian delegation. Since the King rejected the Camp David autonomy concept, about which he had not been consulted, his Palestinian supporters likewise did so. U.S. efforts to persuade the King to allow West Bankers to participate in autonomy talks, as members of an Egyptian delegation, died aborning. King Hussein, would do nothing to urge them to do so, and no Palestinian was prepared to take the risk. Autonomy negotiations between Israel, Egypt and the U.S., when they began in the fall of 1979, had to be conducted without Palestinian participation. Egypt's effort to act as spokesman for the Palestinians, while genuinely intended, made little sense. It had no mandate from Palestinians to act in their behalf. Small wonder that autonomy talks faltered from the

outset.

Because of inability to co-opt pro-Jordanian Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza, the Likud government of Israel, beginning in 1981, sought to organise so-called Village Leagues in the occupied areas. Spearheaded by Mustafa Dudain, a West Bank Palestinian who had once served as Jordanian minister, these organisations were allegedly made up of Palestinians who wished to challenge local PLO leaders and participate in a negotiating process. Copying PLO techniques, the Village Leagues used strong-arm measures to co-opt fellow Palestinians. Despite considerable rhetoric in the final two years of the Likud government about growing support for these Village Leagues, they were non-starters from the outset and unrepresentative of the Palestinian community. Wisely, the government of Prime Minister Shimon Peres has recognised the farcical nature of the Village Leagues and quietly discarded them.

Try as the U.S., Israel and Egypt might to co-opt West Bank/Gaza Palestinians into autonomy negotiations, it became abundantly clear that PLO approval, would be needed for any meaningful Palestinian participation.

Recent developments

Since 1982, several significant developments have transpired in the Middle East that affect the question of Palestinian participation. Israel's invasion of Lebanon in the summer of 1982, ostensibly to eliminate PLO fighters in that country, inflicted a military, but not a political defeat on the PLO. The subsequent Syrian supported schism in Al Fatah triggered internecine fighting among the Palestinians, eventually requiring Arafat and his followers to leave Lebanon. In consequence, the erstwhile PLO conglomerate has split into three segments: The rump Al Fatah of Arafat, which has appropriated the PLO designation; a Syrian-supported National Alliance; and the Democratic Alliance. Of the three, Al Fatah remains strongest, although Arafat's political maneuverability is now undeniably circumscribed. Paradoxically, many Palestinians who criticised Arafat's leadership have rallied to him because of bitterness over Syrian efforts to use the Palestinian national movement for their own ends.

In September, 1982, Reagan proposed renewed Middle East peace talks. These were to be based upon Camp David precepts; but the U.S. indicated it would oppose incorporation of the West Bank and Gaza into Israel and an independent Palestinian state. Some unspecified division of the West Bank was contemplated and those parts of the West Bank that would receive autonomy should be "in association" with Jordan, whatever that might mean in practical terms.

That proposal, useful though it was, never got off the ground. Israel rejected it out of hand. On his part, King Hussein, while interested, stressed he needed a PLO and Arab green light to negotiate for the Palestinians. These, he had difficulty in obtaining. Nor did the Reagan administration, involved, as it was in its Lebanese tar baby, push the concept. After the Israeli military defeat of the PLO and the dispersal of PLO fighters, the administration seemed to believe King Hussein could simply ignore the Arab League summit decision of 1974, designating the PLO as spokesman of the Palestinian national movement, and act on his own. In showing impatience with the King's continuing reluctance to do so, it ignores the critical fact that not only Jordan's political, but also its economic future would be imperiled by acting without PLO and Arab concurrence.

In 1985, after long delays in obtaining approval from a fractious Palestinian National Council, Arafat concluded the "Amman agreement" with King Hussein, which establishes the principle of a joint Jordanian/Palestinian delegation to peace talks, should the latter be revived. Granted, there are disappointing ambiguities in that declaration and uncertainty exists as to whether the Palestinians accept U.N. Resolution 242. Despite its vagaries, the Jordanian/Palestinian agreement suggests the possibility of a joint delegation to peace talks. If some third party, i.e., the U.S., takes a strong leadership role to restart them, a American diplomacy in the Middle East has itself always been characterised by what we proudly called constructive ambiguity; why should others not take a leaf from our book? With ingenuity and persistence, we should be able to mould such ambiguity into constructive forms.

In the meantime, Syria, after administering a serious political drubbing to the Reagan administration in Lebanon and, more recently, to Israel in that same beleaguered land, requiring accelerated Israeli military withdrawal, is feeling its oats. Why should it not? It has made the American behemoth blink and has cast doubt on the vaunted Israeli military capability, which so often

humiliated it. Not only does the Syrian leadership denounce Arafat's PLO but also Jordan for the "Amman agreement," and it ominously warns Jordanians and Palestinians not to participate in any new American-sponsored peace negotiations. The reappointment of Zaid Rifa'i, who has good contacts with the Syrians, as prime minister of Jordan is not likely to alter hardline Syrian attitudes. Syria will remain an obstacle and no amount of American prodding will change this.

President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt, in an effort to get the long-stalled negotiations underway again, proposed that the U.S. invite a joint Jordanian/Palestinian delegation to Washington for preliminary talks prior to a broader negotiation, including Israel and Egypt. This was opposed by Israel and rejected by the U.S., at least up to now. Instead, the U.S. is pushing its modified version of the old Jordanian option, under which Jordanian, presumably with West Bank/Gaza Palestinians in attendance, would engage in direct talks with Israel to negotiate the issue of the occupied territories. On his part, King Hussein, despite U.S. urgings, has indicated his preference for an international conference, including the Soviets, as a more promising forum for resumed peace talks. That concept is rejected by the U.S. and Israel, though in the final analysis it is likely to prove to be the only viable way to proceed.

These developments, coupled with demographic and land ownership changes brought about by the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza, which one informed Israeli observer, Meron Benvenisti, maintains are now irreversible, raise the essential question whether anything is left to negotiate. There is, despite Likud government *fait accompli*, even if the complexities of negotiating a West Bank/Gaza settlement have been exacerbated. A creeping Israeli takeover of the West Bank/Gaza, preparatory to an ultimate unilateral incorporation of these areas, on the model of Golan, as intended by Likud, will not bring peace to the Middle East. It will not passively be accepted by the Palestinians, the Syrians, the Arabs as a whole — not even by the Egyptians. Peres at least wants to negotiate some division of the West Bank. Whatever the final outcome of the West Bank/Gaza territorial issue may be, it must be negotiated in the broader context of a resolution of the overall Palestinian problem. Failure to do so will condemn the Middle East to another quarter century or more of Arab-Israeli conflict.

Certainly, the Palestinian national movement has suffered serious setbacks, some self-inflicted, some inflicted by Israel and Syria, curious bed-fellows in such action. As a result, opponents of the PLO — Israel, the Reagan administration and others — have again concluded that the PLO is on its last legs and, in the words of our Secretary of Defense, has become "irrelevant." The work on that assumption is a shortsighted, indeed, a dangerous self-delusion. The Palestinian national movement, despite setbacks, remains resilient. It will not just die or go away. Arafat, whatever his leadership shortcomings, remains the recognised leader of that movement. His rump Al Fatah organisation, whatever its divisions, remains for most Palestinians and most Arabs the leading component of the Palestinian national movement.

Despite statements by some West Bank/Gaza leaders, like Elias Freij and Rashad Shawwa, that Palestinians should participate in peace negotiations before they lose all, which could happen, neither they nor any other West Bank/Gaza leader will do so without PLO — meaning Arafat's — approval. Any Palestinian negotiators will act only on PLO instructions. By now, political realities in the Middle East should have made this apparent to all but those who will not see. All of the great minds in the United States government agencies — the White House, State Department, CIA, the Defense Department — have been unable to adduce any alternative Palestinian leadership and certainly none that will be any less forceful in the presentation of demands for what Palestinians call their "legitimate national rights."

Even if King Hussein were to be impressed into negotiations, he should not be expected to give up large portions of the West Bank, Jerusalem and Gaza to Israel, as the Reagan administration appears to want.

Israeli Concerns

Israel has repeatedly insisted it will not negotiate with the PLO, indiscriminately branding its leaders as murderers. Not all members of the Israeli government take so completely negative a view, and there has been the occasional Israeli cabinet member, like Ezer Weizman — quickly squelched by his colleagues — who has suggested dialogue with the PLO under certain conditions.

In human terms, the Israeli position is understandable; the Arabs have been callous terrorist act-

tions, attributable to one or another component of the PLO, that are reprehensible even in a Palestinian national liberation context. But the Israeli position is also based on political expediency. It aims at limiting Palestinian participation in peace negotiations to those whom it can pressure, by virtue of its military occupation, into compliance and, concurrently, at keeping the issue of diaspora Palestinians out of any negotiations. Israel recognises that PLO participation would automatically mean that the diaspora Palestinian issue would have to be inscribed on the agenda. The West Bankers and Gazans represent only themselves and, even then, probably no more than individual families or at most towns; the PLO leadership, even in its present fractured form, speaks not only for Palestinians in the occupied territories, but also for the most of the diaspora Palestinians.

One may hope that Israel will eventually modify its adamant stance against the PLO. If it is unwilling to negotiate with PLO leaders — at least at the outset — the 1977 concept developed by the Carter administration of folding Palestinians into a unified Arab delegation, in order to avoid recognition difficulties for Israel, still offers promise. It was initially a Syrian suggestion, which Israel accepted, and the proposed Palestinian participants were prominent American-Palestinians. All were members of the Palestinian National Council; none would have opened his mouth without Arafat's approval. Such a concept, perhaps modified to meet changed conditions, could apply to a joint Jordanian-Palestinian or to a broader, unified Arab delegation, depending upon the scope and forum of revived peace talks.

True, such a concept might not be acceptable to Arafat and his rump PLO, which currently needs visibility. But it could at least be tried in the interests of getting negotiations going again. Arafat and his colleagues will also have to compromise on what Palestinians represent them, if they hope somehow to engage the PLO in the process. Even should negotiations result in protracted talks, their very existence will have a salutary effect upon the area situation; it is total stagnancy that leads to erosion of past accomplishments and a deterioration of the area situation.

The Balance of U.S. Interests

Are U.S. interests likely to be served by engaging in dialogue with Arafat's PLO or is it better to wait in the belief that the organisation, weakened as it has been, will eventually evanesce? The question needs to be answered in terms of how much urgency the U.S. attaches to reviving a meaningful peace process and the likely reactions of Middle East friends and foes.

To echo, uncritically, the Israeli blanket condemnation of the PLO as murderers is politically senseless. There are rational and sensible leaders among the PLO top command, who have sided with Arafat, and who are prepared to negotiate — if any such negotiation offers prospects of achieving at least reasonable Palestinian national demands. Former President Carter has pointed out that we have in the past talked to the PLO. Only with its active help could we evacuate American civilians from Beirut in 1976, and we have had quiet warnings from responsible PLO leaders over the years about extremist plans to assassinate American ambassadors. All of this has shown it can be responsible and helpful to us. That should not simply be forgotten. There are few Palestinians today who still include in their objectives the elimination of Israel, not because they have any love for Israel — they have no cause to do so — but because they, too, recognise political realities.

It is admittedly chancy whether, in the present splintered state of the PLO, Arafat could participate in serious negotiations, involving give and take, but one ought to test the waters on this. We have never had representative past peace negotiations; hence, we do not know how constructively they would behave; or, for that matter, how constructively their peers would allow them to behave. In the interests of again moving toward peace in the Middle East, it seems worth taking the gamble. If it succeeds, we will have made significant headway toward peace; if it fails, the experiment can always be dropped. If Arafat's PLO continues to be rejected, leadership of the Palestinian national movement is likely to devolve on Syrian-supported Palestinian extremists. This will hardly be in U.S. or Israeli interests.

Most of our Arab friends will welcome a U.S. dialogue with the PLO, aimed at assuring proper Palestinian participation in peace talks. Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Morocco, Tunisia, the Gulf principalities, even Iraq, will do so. Jordan, too, will accept it. There may be some element in Jordan that would have reservations about giving the PLO such status, but the fact of the matter is that

Jordan alone is unacceptable to the Palestinians as their sole negotiator. King Hussein has a significant moderating role to play in a joint Jordanian-Palestinian negotiation, but he will not be able to call the shots, as Israel and the U.S. seem to hope he will.

Let us be honest with ourselves. Apart from the Black September incident, the U.S. and Israel, in 1974, effectively undercut King Hussein's capability to negotiate for the Palestinians by denying him even a limited military disengagement agreement in the West Bank, such as Egypt had gotten in Sinai and Syria in Golan. This neglect opened the way for the Rahat Arab summit decision of October, 1974. For the U.S. and Israel to dispute the right of an Arab summit to decide who speaks for the Palestinians is sophistry; the Arab collectivity has as much or more right to do so as Israel and the U.S. do. Caudor demands another admission. If a free election were held in the West Bank and Gaza today, the PLO, as represented by Arafat, would still come out on top. Israel knows this; that was why former Prime Minister Begin cancelled the scheduled municipal elections three years ago. If any such judgment is challenged, why not permit the long suspended West Bank/Gaza elections now and be guided by its results?

Israel would be distressed by a U.S. dialogue with the PLO, and this aspect needs to be seriously weighed. The U.S. should first engage in direct dialogue with Arafat in order to obtain some formula of the type proposed in 1977 as a way of circumventing the Kissinger obligation. This is not demeaning, as some PLO leaders have recently claimed; it is essential and there are all kinds of ways of easing the sting. To the extent that Arafat could insert into such a formula what the PLO considers politically necessary to make U.N. Resolution 242 a more acceptable basis of future negotiations, he might be furthering his own cause and broadening the scope of negotiations. True, even that would not suit Israel, but it would at least enable the U.S. to show enhancedness and without detriment to Israel's negotiating position. PLO recognition of Israel, however informal, would be a step forward even if disagreement persists on that country's ultimate territorial limits.

U.S. interests in the Middle East would be served if we were able to revive a meaningful peace process, one which we could help guide as it proceeded. The American image in the Arab World, frayed as it is, would be enhanced if we finally do what our Arab friends have urged for years, i.e., talk to the legitimate representatives of the Palestinians. With the help of Arab leaders, we could work to moderate PLO positions, as we did with Egypt in the past, in order to achieve some sort of constructive compromise outcome. Israel's interests, to the extent they are consistent with our own, could be safeguarded. We should also be able to help Israel's security problem, since we could reasonably insist as a necessary precondition of such a dialogue on a commitment by Arafat to eschew PLO terrorism against Israel. This may not prevent all anti-Israel terrorism, especially now that the Shi'ites of southern Lebanon are alienated, but it could be a step in the right direction.

There is unquestionably a risk in all of this, and one can understand the Reagan administration's reluctance to become involved in the Middle East after its disastrous Lebanese experience. And, of course, no one in the administration presently wants to press Israel, even indirectly, with the latter's fragile "two heads on a cleft stick" governmental structure. Peres' position needs to be protected to the extent possible. But the peace process must be revived soon if further area deterioration is to be arrested. Engaging in preliminary talks with the PLO leadership, meaning Arafat, with all appropriate safeguards, could be done now, before former peace negotiations are again resumed. And, with a bit of diplomatic skill, it can be done without giving the PLO "heady" ideas.

Past American administrations, both Republican and Democratic, took risks every time they engaged in peace talks. They did not have solutions presented to them on silver platters. Rather, it was persistent and innovative American leadership and ideas that led the peace process to the Sinai and Golan disengagement agreements, Camp David and the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty. The time is ripe for the administration to bolster its courage and seek imaginative and independent ways of reviving the peace process. We must and will respect Israel's interests, where they are consistent with U.S. interests, but we should not simply project our own as Israel's political dogma. Acknowledging the necessity of dialogue with Arafat's PLO, either directly or through Jordan or Egypt, as both countries offered to do, would seem a timely and overdue first step.

Tell Deir Alla dig reevaluates pottery interpretations by archaeologists

Tell Deir Alla in the Jordan Valley has been excavated for the last 25 years. Rami Khouri, an author of two archaeology books, who specialises in the archaeology of Jordan/Palestine, examines the findings of the excavation. Following is the last of a three-part series of articles on the dig.

THE IRON AGE village at Tell Deir Alla continued in use throughout the 7th, 6th and 5th centuries B.C. For parts of that period, it may only have been used seasonally by semi-nomadic people who migrated in and out of the valley with their animal herds.

From this period, the excavators uncovered the remains of mudbrick walls on stone foundations, with roofs once supported on wooden beams. Among the most interesting artifacts from this period were fragments of an alabaster vase, and a horsehead figurine.

A large number of small storage pits dug into the remains of the earlier settlement, and some tabernacles, or bread ovens, were used either by seasonal nomads or by settled farmers who lived in the area.

There was clearly a human presence here during the Persian period (539-332 B.C.). But the extent of any permanent village is unclear, partly because the many pits that were dug in the 5th and 4th centuries B.C. destroyed much of the architecture of earlier phases of the settlement.

After 400 B.C., there was only meagre building activity on the site and little evidence of a permanent settlement, except for the many pits.

Most were small and irregularly shaped, but one ten-metre-diameter pit may have been dug to obtain earth for mud bricks.

With the advent of Hellenism after 332 B.C., the tell was abandoned for good. There is no clear indication of a Greek or Hellenistic occupation, though some Hellenistic pottery sherds have been found at Tell Deir Alla. However, these could have been imported, and in any case Greek

were appears at Jordanian sites as early as 500 B.C.

After 332 B.C., the site is abandoned, except for a short period of use during the Medieval period. In the 13th/14th centuries A.D., when the valley was an important sugar cane-producing region, the summit of the tell was used as an Ayyubid/Mamluke cemetery.

Work is planned to continue at the tell for many more years, though the archaeologists have taken a three-year break from excavations to publish the considerable information they have gleaned from the earth. The next digging season is scheduled for 1987.

Dr. Franken has a particular interest in tracing the technological development of pottery during the Iron Age, with a view to determining the relationship between new forms of pottery that suddenly appear, and new people who may have arrived on the scene, or other factors that may have caused the new pottery forms to appear.

"We have been digging at Tell Deir Alla in part to get a nice stratified sequence of pottery," Dr. Franken said. "And then to try and relate changes in the pottery and the material culture of the inhabitants of the tell with evidence we have from historical texts."

"We have many examples from ancient and modern times of pottery forms and production techniques that do not change for hundreds of years. We cannot be dogmatic and assume that the pottery of a people has to change every 50 years. And if there is a change in the pottery, it does not necessarily mean that a new people invaded the site and introduced their own pottery. There

are many reasons why we have changes in pottery. New materials are discovered, new uses arise, or new markets for export are developed."

For example, he notes that Jordan's potters today have largely stopped making jars to carry and store water, and instead have shifted to making flower pots that are in demand in the market.

Dr. Muawiyah Ibrahim of Yarmouk University adds that new economic activities force a people to develop new pottery forms, such as large jars that were developed in antiquity to store, ship and measure agricultural produce.

There are, conversely, some early Islamic pottery forms that have remained virtually unchanged until today. A case in point are contemporary Egyptian jars to lift water from wells, with knobs on their necks and bases for tying ropes. The same kind of jar was found in Egypt and northern Syria as far back as 700 A.D.

"I suspect the same jar was made in the Roman period, meaning that this kind of jar has been in continuous use in this part of the world for 2,000 years," Dr. Franken said.

Another case are 40-50-centimetre-wide clay basins with high sides that were used to prepare food, or for washing. The Islamic expansion took this shape to Spain and Tunisia, where it is still in use. Dr. Franken recently bought a pot of the same shape in Aleppo, Syria, indicating that a functional form can stay in use for a considerable period of time.

In ancient times, he notes, cultural traditions that can be identified with pottery forms lasted for much longer periods than is the case in modern times.

"The real importance of our work at Tell Deir Alla is that it forces us to rethink the traditional methodology that says if we encounter new pottery forms and production techniques then we must have a new people who enter the area," he said.

"The historical mechanism for change in this part of the world has always been ill-understood," he adds. "Why should a settled population suddenly develop new pottery forms? Is the explanation in political developments? A military invasion? Economic contacts? New economic activities that required new forms to fulfil different functions? Or new people moving from one place to another?"

"If, indeed, new people brought in new pottery forms and other cultural practices, this can only be verified from archaeological evidence that is gathered independently from the accounts in the historical texts."

The other important aspect of the dig, he says, is that it clarifies an indigenous Jordanian history and cultural religious identity during the Iron Age that is separate from the Israelite biblical accounts in Palestine.



Pottery and loomweights in an excavated room from 8th century B.C. village at Tell Deir Alla.



General view of excavations on summit of Tell Deir Alla, showing remains of 8th century B.C. village (photo by Rami Khouri).

China: Why move to the city?

With new modern houses in planned villages, many Chinese peasants live better than city-dwellers. The housing policies save land, provide hot running water and give the countryside colours besides green and brown. Zhao Hong, a journalist with China Features news service, wrote this feature especially for Earthscan.

PEKING, China — Caihe village is a riot of colours in a landscape of green grain. The fresh blues, yellows, oranges and pinks are the new two-storey houses and their courtyards and gates which remind one of the ornamental gateways in parks.

Caihe, 26 kilometres (16 miles) from Peking, is a new, planned village built since 1982 out of eight hamlets. The residential area is neatly distributed in five places. The 416 peasant houses are of prefabricated cement slabs and steel, a radical change from the former mud and straw houses.

Each of the new buildings has running, solar-heated water. In a few months' time, every family will have a methane stove for cooking. "Every city-dweller would envy us," say the villagers, who earned an average of 1,500 yuan (\$535) each in 1984.

Caihe is a typical example of China's planned villages in the rural housing boom which started in 1979. But four years ago, the situation in Caihe was not at all like this.

Like many villages, Caihe a few years ago adopted the policy of linking financial remuneration with output, and many peasants prospered after taking up private-enterprise production. A rural adage holds that "First build a house when you have the money."

No many peasants began to put up new houses wherever and however they liked. As a result, cultivated land was wasted; poor houses were built; electricity and sanitation were often not available as the houses were scattered.

In 1982, the state called a halt to such random building, and architects have since drawn up a unified building plan. According to Yu Liming of the Rural Construction Bureau of the Ministry of Urban and Rural Construction, the plan requires controlled use of land and separation of residential and production zones.

Since 1979, houses with some 3.4 billion square metres (36 billion sq ft) of floor space have been built in the countryside. Sanitation is available in 10 per cent of the five million villages. About 30 million rural households now use methane for cooking and lighting. Solar energy is becoming popular in the countryside.

According to Yu Liming, modern two- and three-storey buildings will save 30 per cent of land. Rural houses differ from those in cities, which are often shared by a dozen families. Most are family units no taller than three storeys. Even two-family houses are semi-detached. "Traditionally Chinese rural families have a courtyard in front of their houses,

where poultry are kept and grain is dried," explains Yu Liming.

The Caihe houses are in dozens of styles, the designs of which are provided free of charge by the Peking Rural Construction Corporation. Some have won awards in the nationwide rural house design competitions held every year since 1981.

China's peasants are changing their neighbour-help-neighbour way of building. In the past, when a peasant wanted to build a house, he was helped by teams from his own village or from nearby villages. But today, specialised builders are needed to guarantee the quality of the houses. Between 1982 and 1984, about 300,000 peasants were trained in building techniques.

In Caihe, when a peasant's building application is approved, he pays the construction team 4,200 yuan (\$1,500), 63 per cent of the cost, while the rest is subsidised by the village. The team buys and transports materials and does the construction work. In the past, when a peasant wanted to build a house, he had to prepare materials and ask for help from neighbours and relatives. Expenditure on fees and presents for helpers took up one-third of the construction cost, according to Wang Siyong.

Constructing high buildings in the countryside requires more steel, cement and glass, instead of just brick, tile and limestone. Although building materials are in short supply, since 1982 the state has allocated 100,000 tonnes of steel and 800,000 standard boxes of glass at fixed prices each year to rural construction organisations. Counties near Guangzhou and Shanghai use processed industrial

wastes as building materials. The state encourages the selling of ready-made materials such as prefabricated concrete, plaster and mineral wool to peasants instead of raw materials, and the country has set up building material bases in nine major cities. Ready-made materials shorten construction time by 30 per cent.

Meanwhile, Chinese peasants have been turning villages into small towns. Bright buildings are replacing old grey houses; open air wooden stages are giving way to spacious, modern cinemas and theatres. Shops with big windows are taking the place of vendors' stalls. There are now about 80,000 towns in China of which 2,900 were formed in the first half of 1984 alone.

"We have everything city people have — department stores, restaurants, theatres, cinemas, schools — just everything," says a resident in a small town in Jiangsu province. "And we have better air than city people. So why should we bother to move into cities?"

Says Yu Liming: "As a regional centre, the small town will promote the modernisation of villages and narrow the gap between cities and the countryside." — Earthscan.



Each of the 45 new buildings in this north China village has a bathroom fuelled by solar energy (China Features photo)

Increased income has enabled this peasant couple in the once poverty-stricken county of Fengyang, east China, to move from their thatched cottage (bottom left) into a new two-storey house. (China Features photo).



Increased income has enabled this peasant couple in the once poverty-stricken county of Fengyang, east China, to move from their thatched cottage (bottom left) into a new two-storey house. (China Features photo).

U.S. account on fate of flight 007 doubted

By Christopher Hanson
Reuter

WASHINGTON — Two years after Korean Air Lines (KAL) flight 007 was shot down in Soviet airspace, the episode remains one of the most mysterious in aviation history and questions are mounting about the U.S. version of events.

Washington, Moscow and private analysts agree on certain basic facts of the September 1, 1983, incident: The Boeing 747 jumbo jet strayed some 340 miles (545 km) off course into Soviet airspace on a flight from Anchorage to Seoul and was shot down by a missile-firing fighter, killing all 269 aboard.

There the consensus ends. Moscow asserts the plane was on a spy mission.

Washington and South Korea, which accused Moscow of cold-blooded murder, deny the espionage charge as outrageous propaganda and ascribe the overflight of militarily sensitive Soviet territories to computer failure, possibly compounded by flight crew navigation errors.

U.S. officials say that, despite extensive electronic intelligence monitoring of the area where the plane was flying, they did not know it was off course and in danger until after it was downed and hence could not warn the pilot.

But radar data, recent court testimony, two books by American scholars and articles by a New York Times columnist have called the U.S. account into question.

"The conventional theory is inherently implausible and may be disintegrating," the columnist, Tom Wicker, wrote this month in a two-part commentary on the affair.

In the recent book "Black Box: KAL 007 and the Superpowers", Alexander Dallin, a Stanford University history professor and expert on the Soviet Union, says the argument that the plane was on a Western spy mission "looms stronger than before... this possibility must not be ruled out."

The Washington Post, citing radar data released by the Japanese government, reported recently that the airliner had radioed incorrect altitude reports to ground controllers and rapidly climbed 3,000 feet (915 metres) just before it was shot down.

Wicker argues that this data — and evidence that the plane earlier made two turns to take it over Soviet territory, although Washington said it was on a "straight-line course" — suggest that "the pilots were taking evasive action while deceiving Tokyo air traffic controllers."

"The turns suggest that the pilots knew where they were and del-

iberately flew over Soviet territory," Wicker wrote.

Dallin's book, and another recent account by Syracuse University political science professor Oliver Clubb, reject as implausible certain theories that have been offered to explain the airliner's course deviation: Crew illness, hijacking or massive mechanical failure.

In questioning the human or computer error theory, they both point out what Dallin termed a "strange coincidence", namely that a South Korean airliner was also involved in a 1978 overflight of Soviet territory and was forced down.

Clubb's book, "KAL flight 007: The Hidden Story", was sharply attacked by some critics, who said his assertion that the airliner was definitely on a mission for U.S. intelligence was not backed up by solid evidence.

KAL 007 flew over Sakhalin Island, a guarded Soviet military area, and, according to Dallin, the flight probably led Moscow to cancel a test of its SS-X-25 nuclear missile.

Whatever the explanation for the overflight, experts agree it provided a bonanza to U.S. intelligence agencies, which electronically gathered data on the Soviet reaction.

The question remains why U.S. intelligence monitors did not get a warning through civilian channels to the airliner if the flight had gone inadvertently off course?

U.S. officials say they were unaware of the flight's danger because American sensors recorded air traffic in the area automatically and no human technicians were following the flight as it went astray. They say tapes of the flight were later "routinely" destroyed.

The official view is contradicted in a court affidavit filed in Washington late last month which stated that U.S. officials were aware the plane was going off course.

The affidavit, by an experienced air traffic controller, said the words "we should warn him" can be heard in a recording of U.S. radar operators made when the plane began to go off course several hours before it was shot down.

The document was submitted to a federal judge by lawyers for families of those killed, who have filed suit against the U.S. government and KAL. The judge will listen to the tape and determine if the words can, in fact, be heard.

U.S. government lawyers argued in a legal brief filed this week that the portion of the tape in question contained only "unintelligible background words" and that no U.S. technicians or any other officials were aware of the airliner's plight.

Libya's water pipeline awarded top priority

By Jonathan Wright
Reuter

TRIPOLI — Dong Ah of South Korea, winner of \$3.3 billion contract for the first phase of Libya's "great man-made river" project, is among the luckier companies working in the country.

While other contractors are still waiting for long overdue payments, Dong Ah has already received \$500 million for its work so far and Libyan officials have made it clear this is one scheme that will not be held up by cash-flow problems.

The Libyans' financial rectitude in this case is an indication of the importance attached to the grandly titled project, in fact a network of pipelines to bring fossil water to coastal farmland from far off in the Libyan desert.

Dokali Megharief, head of the project's finance division, says the pipeline has top priority because of Libya's urgent need to expand its agricultural production.

Libyan leader Muammar Jadhafi has made self-sufficiency in food one of his revolution's major objectives on the grounds that "a people that eats from overseas cannot be free".

Special taxes on petrol, cigarettes, electronic goods and money transfers abroad have been in force since October 1983 to help cover the local currency element in the contract.

Megharief, an American-trained business graduate, said Libya expects to spend \$25 billion on all five phases of the project, equivalent to over \$7,000 for each citizen or more than one year's gross national product.

By 1989 the first stage, which involves 1,900 kilometre (1,200 miles) of pipeline up to four metres (13 feet) in diameter, should be bringing two million cubic metres of water a day to the Benghazi area from two "well fields" 500

and 700 km (300 and 420 miles) to the south, he added.

The water, 100 to 700 metres (330 to 2,300 feet) underground, is believed to have accumulated millions of years ago when what is now the Sahara desert was part of a tropical rain forest.

Dong Ah has completed 200 km (120 miles) of highway for heavy equipment and 80 per cent of a permanent 1,000-inhabitant town at Sarir, the northernmost of the two eastern well fields.

U.S.-patented machinery to manufacture the pipeline segments has arrived in the coastal town of Brega and the first of some 250,000 sections should run off the production line in December.

Megharief said the project managers had no fears that a U.S. embargo on export of certain types of sensitive high technology to Libya would hold work up.

The pipeline technology is owned by Price Brothers of Texas and another U.S. company, Brown and Root, has a \$100 million contract as consultant engineers for the project.

The latest of several smaller contracts last month went to Braspetro of Brazil for the drilling of the 270 water wells at Sarir and Tazerbo further south. Megharief said. The value of this contract was not immediately available.

Some 50 construction companies have shown interest in the second phase of the project, which will link the Fezzan water fields in the west of the desert to the capital Tripoli.

This contract is at the detailed design and prequalification stage and should be signed some time in 1986, Megharief added.

The completed network of pipelines is expected to irrigate 200,000 hectares (500,000 acres) of reclaimed land for 50 to 200 years, making Libya self-sufficient in grain and meat.



Vienna's 'nature' house

Fantasy house captures Vienna's imagination

By Stephanie Nebelhay
Reuter

VIENNA — A house painted pink, blue and yellow, trees growing from its windows and inside walls reserved for tenants' graffiti, has captured Vienna's imagination.

Chimneys are topped by golden huts, the roof is landscaped with grass and plants and floors are deliberately uneven.

Austrian artist Friedensreich Hundertwasser, designer of the building, which opens next month, hopes it will revolutionise the way architects and tenants think about public housing.

"I hope this house causes a disturbance in building policies all over the world," he told Reuters.

"Houses have been directed against the soul. I wanted this one to be nearer to nature."

The 57-year-old, who rides a moped to the construction site of his two-year project, was wearing his usual cap, jeans, flannel shirt and sandals. "Creativity has a million possibilities," he said, sipping hot milk at a nearby cafe.

More than 70,000 people queued up to view the house this month, creating traffic jams in Vienna's old-fashioned third district.

There are few straight lines, which Hundertwasser regards as "godless", in the eight-storey structure. The outside walls of each flat are painted in a different bright colour so tenants can recognise their homes from the street.

One hundred and fifty trees are planted about the house. Asked what will happen when they grow in the next decades, Hundertwasser said simply: "They will be even more beautiful."

The artist took no payment for designing the four-million-dollar house, which has been built entirely with public funds. City officials are soon to choose 50 tenants from more than 100 applicants.

Uneven corridor floors aim to simulate a path in the woods. No two bathrooms are alike, as Hundertwasser gave the builders a free rein in designing wall and floor tile patterns.

At first, they were unable or reluctant to lay tiles unevenly — so some said they had lost jobs for such errors in the past — but he

says they gradually overcome their inhibitions.

To stimulate further creativity, the rental contract gives tenants the right to change windows or paint on corridor walls.

"Humans have been cooped-up like chickens or like prisoners in concentration camps without any rights to change their environment," Hundertwasser said. "The building process should not end when the tenants move in. The workers have already made graffiti — I let them, of course."

Hundertwasser regards the Bauhaus style — a functional German school of design which has had a major influence on public housing since the 1920s — as cold and oppressive.

The house has met a mixed reaction.

"Hundertwasser seems hardly to realise that he should leave future tenants free space, for one sees only his imprint in the staircase, bathrooms and windows," wrote the architecture critic of Die Presse the leading Austrian daily.

People who pass the house on Loewengasse often stop in their tracks or shout comments to Hundertwasser and workers as they put the finishing touches to the project.

"I would love to live here," one elderly man told him.

"I think the house is fantastic, but it is a shame to put it on a corner like this and not on a public square," said a woman.

Mayor of Vienna Helmut Zilk, touring the building recently, pointed to a nearby house in the typical empire style.

"That's the 19th-century across the road and this house is the end of the 20th century," he said. "Why not?"

Most flats measure 75 square metres (810 square feet) and will cost about \$170 per month to rent. Tenants will also have to pay \$16,875 towards building costs, returnable if they move out. Larger flats and those with terraces cost more.

"This house is the culmination of my paintings because most of my paintings depict buildings," Hundertwasser said.

"This house has exhausted me," he added. "But I will start to paint again as soon as this burden is away."

Europeans vie for trip to Mexico

Spain must win against Iceland

SEVILLE, Spain (R) — On the face of it Spain will be in an ideal situation when they meet Iceland in their final World Cup European Group Seven soccer tie Wednesday night.

The Icelanders, though a fast improving football nation, are seldom a serious threat on foreign soil and have little experience of playing in the highly charged atmosphere they will encounter in the Benito Villamarín Stadium.

But with so much at stake — victory will take Spain to Mexico, anything less will send them out of the competition — Coach Miguel Muñoz was only marginally guilty of exaggeration when he said: "It's going to cost us blood."

It will also be a tense night for both Scotland and Wales. Should Spain fail to collect both points, the Scots will earn a first class ticket to Mexico, while the Welsh will play-off against the winners of the Oceania Group.

Iceland also have a number of top quality individuals who spell danger, like Stuttgart striker Agir Sigurvinsson, teenage midfielder Sigi Jonsson, who plays with English First Division club Sheffield Wednesday, and Andriechi's Arno Gudjohnsen.

On all known form, however, the Spaniards should win with something to spare, especially if they can reproduce their form of 1984 when they were runners-up to France in the European championship.

Strikers Emilio Butragueno and Hipolito Rincón should have too much skill and pace for the pedestrian Icelandic defence, while Ricardo Gallego, Victor and Rafael Gordillo have the strength and invention to dominate the midfield.

The frenzied Seville crowd will also play their part, as they did on

that astonishing night in December 1983 when Spain routed Malta 12-1 to qualify for the European finals.

Iceland's English Coach Tony Knapp is well aware what his team can expect, and admitted: "Most of my players are not used to playing before such a crowd or facing a team which will play to the death."

Bulgaria looks unstoppable

LUXEMBOURG (R) — Re-urgent Bulgaria will join the 1986 World Cup finals line-up Wednesday night unless tiny Luxembourg pull off the biggest soccer upset of the year.

Victory will leave Bulgaria unsuitably clear at the top of Group Four, leaving Yugoslavia, European champions France and East Germany to battle it out for the second ticket to Mexico.

Even without the services of goalkeeper Borislav Mikhailov and defender Plamen Nikolov — two of the five players banned for life after the Levski Spartak-CSKA Cup final brawl — Bulgaria's all-round quality should be decisive.

Luxembourg, languishing at the bottom of the group without a point and with a goal tally of 1-18, will be playing for pride alone, which may not be enough against a Bulgarian side emerging as a new force in Europe.

Bulgarian coach Ivan Vutsov has impressed upon his players the prize which awaits them, and he said: "We will not accept anything but victory."

With no injury problems, Vutsov will rely on his tried and trusted three-man strike force of Iskrenov, Gochev and Mladenov for goals, with the highly-talented Naikov and Zdarov providing the ammunition from midfield.

Though goalkeeper John Van

Ryswyck and midfielder Jemp Barioni both turned in spirited displays for Jeunesse D'Esch against Juventus in the European Cup last week, Luxembourg are stepping out their class.

Luxembourg Football Federation Technical Secretary Jean-Pierre Schuemmer said: "It's going to be the most difficult match of the year. But there's a great spirit in the team at the moment and if we can hold them for the first 20 minutes, we could break through."

Gomes to lead Portugal

PRAGUE (R) — Injury-hit Portugal will be relying on Europe's most prolific scorer Fernando Gomes and runaway group leaders West Germany Wednesday to enhance their chances of reaching the World Cup finals.

With strikers Jordao and Litos and midfielder Jaime Pacheco absent, manager Jose Torres is expected to field a defensive team for their European Group Two qualifying tie with Czechoslovakia.

He admits he will be hoping to catch the Czechoslovaks on the break, snatch a goal or two and at least one point. But the Portuguese cause could be helped by West Germany, who take on Sweden in Stockholm.

The West Germans are four points clear at the top of the group, with Sweden, who have a superior goal difference, and Portugal locked together on six points in the race for the second qualifying place.

Torres said: "We must win at least one point to keep alive our chances of qualifying. We will try for fast breaks."

The breaks should come from Gomes, twice winner of the Golden Boot as Europe's top scorer, and his talented Porto team-mate Fute.

Manager Josef Masopust said: "We will have to watch for Gomes, and I have ordered defender Frantisek Straka to mark him closely."

The Czechoslovaks are virtually out of contention in the five-team group, languishing in fourth place with three points from their five games. Now Masopust wants his team to rediscover their best form in front of their home crowd.

"We want to rehabilitate ourselves and leave the competition with honour."

The Czechoslovaks will be wit-

hout veteran defender and captain Jan Fiala and defender Peter Zelensky, both injured.

Soviets face tough Denmark

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet coach Eduard Malofeyev, harangued for his side's recent form, knows that anything less than victory over Denmark in Wednesday's World Cup qualifying match could signal the end of his side's plans for a trip to Mexico next year — and his career.

The Russians have managed only four points from their opening five games in European Group Six. But on the bright side their remaining games, against Denmark, Ireland and Norway, are at home.

As for the Danes, who will have about 8,000 fans cheering them on Wednesday, a win will almost certainly guarantee them a place in the finals. The group winners and runners-up qualify for the finals.

Denmark, having demolished the Russians 4-2 in Copenhagen in June, will be in confident mood, especially with striker Michael Laudrup showing such outstanding form with his Italian club Juventus.

But Malofeyev, who also coaches bottom-placed First Division club Dynamo Moscow, said his forwards were capable of exploiting Denmark's defence.

The Danes' 3-0 defeat by Sweden in a friendly earlier this month raised question marks over their defence. But the Soviet front line will have to show much more imagination than they have in recent matches if they are to beat Danish goalkeeper Ole Jvist.

The tie, played in front of a capacity 100,000 crowd at Moscow's Lenin Stadium, should be a fascinating duel between the Russians' disciplined approach and Denmark's inventive game.

The Soviet Union are likely to rely heavily on the power of attacking pair Oleg Protasov and Oleg Blokhin.

However, as in the Russians' hard-fought 1-0 win over West Germany in a friendly last month, the performances of keeper Rinat Dussayev and their solid back four, marshalled by Alexander Chivadze, may turn out to be crucial.

Asmussen to ride for Fustok

PARIS (R) — American jockey Cash Asmussen confirmed Monday he would ride for Saudi Ara-

U.S. Major League Baseball Standings

(after Monday's games)

National League East Division				
	W	L	PCT.	GB
St. Louis	94	56	.627	—
New York	91	59	.607	3
Montreal	78	72	.520	16
Philadelphia	71	77	.480	22
Chicago	70	79	.470	23½
Pittsburgh	51	97	.345	42

West Division				
	W	L	PCT.	GB
Los Angeles	88	62	.587	—
Cincinnati	81	67	.547	6
Houston	77	73	.513	11
San Diego	75	75	.500	13
Atlanta	61	88	.409	26½
San Francisco	59	91	.393	29

American League East Division				
	W	L	PCT.	GB
Toronto	94	55	.631	—
New York	88	61	.591	6
Baltimore	79	69	.534	14½
Detroit	78	72	.520	16½
Boston	75	75	.500	19½
Milwaukee	65	84	.436	29
Cleveland	54	98	.355	41½

West Division				
	W	L	PCT.	GB
California	85	65	.567	—
Kansas City	84	65	.564	½
Chicago	77	72	.517	7½
Oakland	73	77	.487	12
Seattle	70	80	.467	15
Minnesota	69	81	.460	16
Texas	56	93	.376	28½

Sharari announces gifts to Jordanian youth clubs

TAFLEH (Petra) — Youth Minister Fhisham Al Sharari Tuesday announced a donation of JD 5,000 to Tafleh Youth Club to help it carry out its activities, and said that the Ministry of Youth will repay a JD 3,600 loan which the club had earlier obtained from the Housing Bank to fund its programmes.

The announcement was made by Mr. Sharari during a visit here where he met with District Governor Rafeh Al Mujali and was briefed on the district's need for sports facilities. Mr. Mujali said that the local inhabitants have asked for a sports complex to hold their athletic activities.

During a meeting held later at Tafleh Municipality the minister announced a donation of JD 200 to help support the Basira Club and JD 500 for the Al Ain Al Baida Club to help it replenish its public library.

The minister visited the Al Ain Al Baida Club and was briefed on sports and youth programmes. He later promised to supply the club's library with 100 books and sports equipment.

Gepek shipping magistrate Stavros Niarchos, but the partnership came to an end with Sunday's announcement that Freddie Head had severed family ties to ride for Niarchos next year.

For the past four seasons 23-year-old Asmussen has ridden for

Familiar faces missing from judo championships

SEOUL (R) — Olympic heavyweight champion Hitoshi Saito of Japan will be the man to beat when the 14th World Championships usher in a new era of judo on Thursday.

For the first time in three championships, Yasuhiro Yamashita, the world's outstanding judo fighter, will be absent.

The Japanese Olympic open weight champion, who won three world weight and a record nine national titles, retired in June at 28 saying he had reached his limit "both spiritually and physically."

With the retirement also of Olympic heavyweight silver medalist Angelo Parisi of France, the path is clear for the skilful Saito to win both the open and heavyweight categories.

Only Soviets Grigory Veritchev and Khabil Biktachev are expected to challenge him, although Britain's Elvis Gordon could spring a surprise.

South Korea has no diplomatic relations with communist countries and sports officials here said the participation of many of the Soviet bloc nations augured well for a boycott-free 1988 Seoul Olympics.

South Korea boycotted the last world championships in Moscow in October 1983 in protest at the shooting down of a South Korean airliner by Soviet fighters one month earlier.

As usual, the Japanese are expected to dominate the heavy and light categories, but team manager Nobuyuki Sato has played safe by entering his other two Olympic champions, Shinji Hosokawa (under 60 kg) and Yoshiyuki Matsuka (under 65 kg).

Of particular interest, however, will be the performance of Takushiro Nishida, who for 10 years has been one of the most formidable Japanese lightweights (under 71 kg), yet has rarely been seen in major international competition.

Sato believes only Nishida, 30, is capable of putting down the aggressive challenge of Olympic lightweight champion Ahn Byeong-Keun of South Korea.

Britain's Neil Adams will be attempting to regain the lightweight (under 78 kg) title he lost in Moscow and faces a repeat of that final against Japan's Nobutoshi Hikeage.

Adams, who will be 27 on the day he fights, has declined to comment on speculation that he is planning to retire soon.

The middleweight clash between Olympic champion Peter Seisenbacher of Austria and European champion Vitaly Peshniak of the Soviet Union may prove among the most gripping, though American Robert Berland, the Olympic silver medalist, could upset predictions.

Karpov and Kasparov follow familiar course in 8th game

MOSCOW (R) — World chess champion Anatoly Karpov reflected deeply Tuesday in game eight of his tie rematch against Garry Kasparov before steering play into a course well familiar from their first series.

Karpov, playing white, thought for more than half an hour before deciding his line against a variation of the queen's gambit declined that was tested five times in the 48-game contest, abandoned

without result last February.

In the last match, it was Kasparov who championed the white position four out of five times. The debate ended then in game 42, with Karpov showing a reliable equalising method for black.

Karpov Tuesday chose a 16th move not seen in the last match, but he spent more than an hour over his opening strategy. Kasparov replied quickly, a hint that the champion's novel move might have been an improvisation.

A capacity crowd of more than 1,000 people gathered for the start of play at Moscow's Tchaikovsky Concert Hall, and support for the contestants seemed equally divided.

Al-Nasr defeats KCC in Tripoli

KAMPALA (R) — Libya's Al Nasr took the last spot in the African Cup Winners Cup soccer semi-finals at the weekend with a win on penalties over Kampala City Council of Uganda in Tripoli, Kampala radio reported.

KCC took a 1-0 lead to Tripoli where they lost by the same score, leaving the two sides level 1-1 on aggregate.

The Libyans won the resulting penalty shoot-out 4-2, the radio said, and will now meet Egyptians National for a place in the final.

AFC Leopards of Kenya will play Levant's UTD of Nigeria in the other semifinal.

The Libyan-Egyptian clash promises to be stormy if it takes place.

Last year Al-Ahly of Libya refused to travel to Cairo to play the Cup Winners' Cup final.

Site of Libya v. Morocco qualifier moved to Benghazi

ZURICH (R) — The African Zone World Cup qualifier between Libya and Morocco on October 18 will take place in Ben-

ghazi rather than Tripoli, a spokesman for the International Football Federation (FIFA) said Tuesday.

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For more information: Please phone No. 622950/ Amman
Mr. Radwan Abugoura
between 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. & 4-7 p.m.

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Registration is now open at the French Cultural Centre for the following courses:

- French language courses (all levels) for adults and children.
- Preparation courses for the exams of Sorbonne University (Paris).
- Arabic language courses for foreigners.
- Handicraft courses (flower making, silk painting, ceramics).
- Computer courses.
- Exercise classes for ladies.
- Theatre workshop.
- Music courses (piano, flute...).

The courses will start on 30th September 1985.
For more information, please contact the centre.
Telephone: 636445

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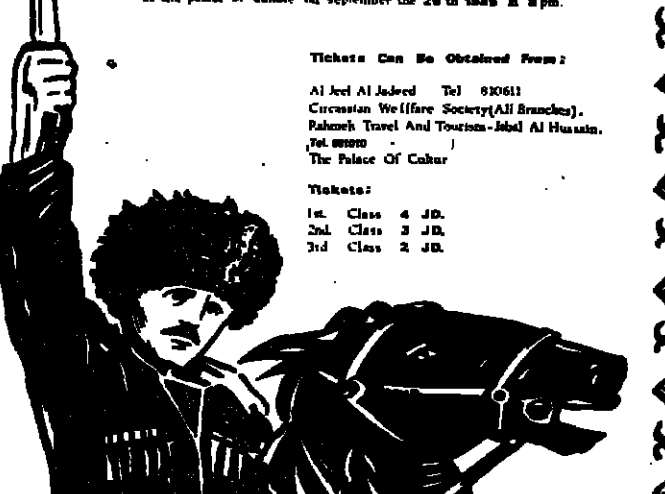
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Rahmani Travel And Tourism - Jeddah Al-Husseini,
Tel. 88880
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Tickets:

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3rd Class 1 JD.



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LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One sterling	1.4320/30	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3625/32	Canadian dollars
	2.7100/20	West German marks
	3.8500/30	Dutch guilders
	2.2230/50	Swiss francs
	54.85/95	Belgian francs
	8.2700/800	French francs
	1829/1832	Italian lire
	230.10/30	Japanese yen
	8.1200/300	Swedish crowns
	8.0550/650	Norwegian crowns
	9.8400/500	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	328.70/329.20	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Equities closed lower after a mixed start with selling accelerating from around midsession as large lines of stock came on offer, dealers said. Hopes of a near term cut in base rates appear to be waning, further encouraging selling. At 1430 GMT the FTSE 100 index was down 12.4 to 1,279.7.

Dealers said the nervousness over the prospect of continuing high U.K. interest rates and a further increase in the value of sterling again hit leading exporters with ICI down 3p to 634. Government bonds were up to ½ point easier after profit-taking on Monday's 1¼ point closing gains, dealers said. North American and gold shares ended quietly mixed. Thorn EMI ended at its low of the day, down 17p to 357, following reports of a brokers profits downgrading, dealers said. Imperial group lost 7p to 187, despite news it agreed to sell its Howard Johnson subsidiary to raise \$314 million. Bid speculation surrounding a possible move for Stewart Wrightson by Exco initially pushed insurance brokers up to 20p higher. But the market's general mood dragged prices in the sector off their highs with Stewart up 4p to 669 after 684. Insurances and banks were mostly lower with Royal 10p down at 663 and Natwest 7p lower at 617. Among dull oils B.P. was off 3p to 530 and Lasso 5p to 273.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 25, 1985

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Many delays and apparent obstacles can take place during the daytime to block your path, but these are actual opportunities giving you more time to work out a plan.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Some practical affair could interfere with your activity to gain some private desire in the morning, but later you gain it.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) A partner could take up considerable time in the morning. After lunch, work quickly to get caught up with your duties.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You first have to handle work that is important before you can get off to some new and interesting situation.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Make sure you get all of your affairs in good order before you go out for a good time with your friends.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) You have to handle a home situation before meeting with an associate, but this gives you more time to plan your discussion.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Some interruption could delay work you had planned for the morning, but later you can get right at it enthusiastically.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You may find some pleasure thwarted early because of a practical affair that needs attention, but later, have a fine time.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) First keep a promise made to kin before doing your own thing and then you can be very energetic.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You have to handle some private worry even if it takes longer than you expected. Take care of outside business.

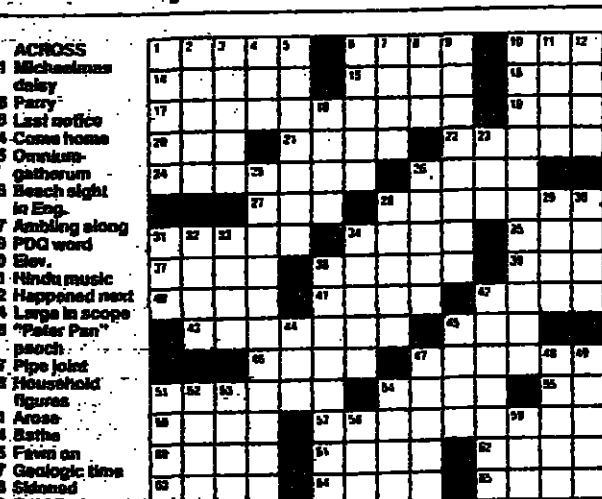
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Put yourself in a good friend's shoes and you know how best to be of assistance to him or her.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Be most tactful in dealing with a prominent person and don't make any untoward remarks. Enjoy friends tonight.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You have a well-thought-out plan, but are not sure just when to launch it. Late afternoon is best for this.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will find it difficult to express self and show true talents early in life and needs all the encouragement the parents can bestow from earliest years. Send to the right kind of schools. Adulthood will be successful and happy.

THE Daily Crossword by Linda Hooper



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Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

1. Marine flyer	49. Ororo's state
2. Put to right	50. Janitor
3. Fleetside cover	51. Fungus growth
4. Spinnaker	52. Customer
5. Easyjet	53. Malacca stick
6. Author Anais	54. Rain cover
7. Like some	55. Girdle
8. Pages	56. Janitor
9. Leftovers	57. Fungus growth
10. Brummet	58. Malacca stick
11. Lat. phrase	59. Rain cover
12. Care for	60. Girdle
13. Soft	61. Janitor
14. Companion	62. Fungus growth
15. Wind dir.	63. Customer
16. Short distance	64. Malacca stick
17. Master of	65. Rain cover
18. Do grammar	66. Girdle
19. Do grammar	67. Janitor
20. Moved swiftly	68. Fungus growth
21. Use a netzope	69. Customer
22. Yacht	70. Malacca stick
23. Metanchoy	71. Rain cover
24. Rtp	72. Girdle
25. Symp	73. Janitor
26. Animal abodes	74. Fungus growth
27. Rose too	75. Customer
28. Ororo's state	76. Malacca stick
29. Janitor	77. Rain cover
30. Fungus growth	78. Girdle
31. Customer	79. Janitor
32. Malacca stick	80. Fungus growth
33. Rain cover	81. Customer
34. Girdle	82. Malacca stick
35. Janitor	83. Rain cover
36. Fungus growth	84. Girdle
37. Customer	85. Janitor
38. Malacca stick	86. Fungus growth
39. Rain cover	87. Customer
40. Girdle	88. Malacca stick
41. Janitor	89. Rain cover
42. Fungus growth	90. Girdle

Markets try to weigh dollar's future course

LONDON (R) — The dollar languished around its lowest levels for 15 months in Europe Tuesday as nervous dealers tried to assess whether the currency is set on a firm downward path after sliding dramatically by some five per cent Monday.

The weekend pact reached in New York between the United States, West Germany, Britain, France and Japan to cooperate to steer the dollar lower has clearly jolted market confidence in a currency which just seven months ago was at near-record heights.

But dealers said that while the dollar has been knocked by signs that Washington is now willing to join other central banks in intervening to reduce its persistent strength, talk alone may not be enough to keep the dollar on the defensive if economic facts dictate otherwise.

"At present central banks only have to open their mouths and the dollar tumbles," one Frankfurt currency dealer said.

Showing its willingness to deploy its large reserves, West Germany's Bundesbank sold a relatively high \$46.6 million in the U.S. currency was fixed in Frankfurt Tuesday at 2.7130 marks. Monday it sold only \$8 million at the fix.

The dollar was trading in London at midday at 2.7095 marks from its close Monday night of 2.7275 marks, after shedding 11-1/2 pence on Monday.

The pound sterling, another beneficiary of the dollar's collapse, rose to \$1.4343 from Monday night's \$1.4280 finish. It had gained six cents in London Monday.

One factor which has made dealers wary of bucking the trend towards a weaker dollar is that for the first time since the late 1970s the drive to combat the U.S. unit's strength has been orchestrated by the U.S. rather than from Europe or Japan.

They say it is this that distinguishes the latest rhetoric from previous attempts at coordinated action and noted reports that the U.S. Federal Reserve sold dollars Monday.

Yet dealers feel that at some stage in the next few days the market may prod the dollar higher to test the resolve of central banks to live by the commitment reached at the weekend.

Reports that the Bank of Japan had intervened with almost \$1 billion in Tokyo markets earlier Tuesday to counter strong underlying commercial buying interest for the dollar suggests that central banks may have to prove their willingness to drive the dollar lower, with hard cash rather than just talk.

"If a rise (in the dollar) threatens to get out of hand they will have to intervene. Otherwise they will lose face and it will go roaring up," one London dealer said.

However, neither the Bundesbank nor any other European central bank was detected intervening in the open market Tuesday as the dollar held fairly stable after an one stage looking like going into free fall Monday.

Dealers said the markets lacked direction as they searched for clues as to what level the Group of Five (G-5) governments and central banks believe key exchange rates should trade.

Gold once again benefited from the dollar's retreat and was fixed in London Tuesday morning at \$328.40 an ounce, its strongest fix in almost a month.

he added. He denied the timing of any rate cut would be dictated by the ruling Conservative Party's annual conference next month. Dealers have speculated that the government would like to foster a cut at that time to cheer its supporters.

Lawson sees improved interest rates prospect

Meanwhile, Britain's Chancellor of the Exchequer (Finance Minister) Nigel Lawson said Tuesday that the fall of the U.S. dollar will improve prospects for a cut in British interest rates.

"These developments will make the prospects of lower interest rates, in due time, rather better," he told an interviewer on British radio.

But Mr. Lawson said Britain had to be cautious on the bank base rate, now at 11-1/2 per cent. "It is necessary to be cautious, not to take any risks with inflation, not to bring interest rates down before it is safe to do so," he said.

British industrialists, now facing a higher sterling exchange rate, say credit costs should be cut. Mr. Lawson said British exporters had nothing to fear from the G-5 agreement and the New York meeting had been resoundingly successful.

The dollar was at an unusually high level that was fostering strong protectionist pressures in the U.S.

Decline is healthy, Baker says

U.S. Treasury Secretary James Baker said Monday in Washington that the dollar's fall on the foreign exchanges was healthy and not precipitous.

His comments contrasted with those of currency traders in Europe, who said the dollar had suffered one of its sharpest declines ever on world money markets.

In a television interview, Mr. Baker said the drop in the dollar reflected a statement by the finance ministers that the U.S. currency's value was too high. But he refused to say whether the industrialized countries had intervened in the markets.

Mr. Baker said that protectionism posed a threat to economic recovery and the G-5 were united in their determination to fight it.

The treasury secretary said the readjustment in the dollar could help the Reagan administration fight protectionist pressures in Congress and industry.

Mr. Baker said the United States had no particular level or target for the value of the dollar against other major currencies.

He added it would be wrong to put figures on what level major currencies should trade against each other.

No currency targets set

In Bonn, West German Finance Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg said Monday that the West's major industrial nations, though ready to cooperate on encouraging a lower dollar, have not set target ranges in which leading currencies should trade.

Currency dealers speculated earlier Monday that finance ministers and central bank chiefs may have set target zones for major currencies such as the dollar and mark.

Mr. Stoltenberg, speaking at a news conference shortly after his return from New York, said officials at the meeting considered the dollar — then around 2.88 marks — was overvalued.

He added it would be wrong to put figures on what level major currencies should trade against each other.

Peru threatens to quit IMF over debt burden

UNITED NATIONS, New York (R) — Peru Monday threatened to quit the International Monetary Fund (IMF) if changes are not made to ease debt repayments.

"Foreign debt is the major hindrance to development and well-being," Peruvian President Alan Garcia Perez told the U.N. General Assembly.

There were no immediate comments from the IMF.

Speaking in the general debate, Mr. Garcia called for unity of debtor countries and a radical change in the financial situation.

To that end, Latin American countries must coordinate their actions and harmonize their position with those of the African and Asian nations, he declared.

Mr. Garcia pointed out that the IMF demanded fiscal austerity to guarantee punctual serving of the foreign debt.

"We say that the International Monetary Fund does not have the moral authority to preach austerity in our country, because during the seventies, when it was necessary to place petrodollars in credits for poor countries, it promoted indebtedness. In those years, it was an accessory to waste, unproductive investments and growth of public administration," he said.

Since his inauguration in July, the Peruvian leader has sought a leadership role in the continent on the issue of repaying the Latin American region's \$370 billion debt.

He stated: "The foreign debt can never be paid off by anyone of our countries, because the effort to service it on time will keep our democracies trapped in misery and violence."

In sharply-worded speeches delivered on the opening day, Mr. Garcia and three other Latin American leaders also warned that growth in protectionism in the United States would cripple efforts to repay Latin America's regional debt.

"Brazil will not pay its foreign debt with recession, not with unemployment, not with hunger," Brazilian President Jose Sarney said to the applause of delegates assembled for the first speech of the 40th session of the United Nations.

Mr. Sarney, Brazil's first civilian president in 21 years, warned that his country's young democracy was threatened by "exorbitant" rates for repayment of the debt, the continent's largest at \$103 billion.

Mr. Dante Caputo, the Argentine foreign minister, warned delegates: "Our nation needs urgent solutions."

Mr. Augusto Ramirez Ocampo, Colombian foreign minister, also appealed for easing of the debt burden on the continent.

The Peruvian president had announced earlier that his country would not follow IMF prescriptions and would, instead, limit debt payments to 10 per cent of export earnings.

At next month's IMF meeting in Seoul, Mr. Garcia said "we will demand decisions on the reforms of the monetary system and the distribution of world liquidity in a fairer manner". The fund has negotiated debt repayment plans for several Latin American countries.

"Otherwise, we are not interested, nor is it to our advantage to belong to an agency that serves the benefit of a single country," the Peruvian leader said, in an obvious reference to the United States.

About one-third of the continent's debt is owed to United States banks.

Reagan establishes trade 'war chest'

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan Monday set up a \$300 million "war chest" to counter what he called the unfair trading practices of other nations and announced that the United States and other major industrial countries would act collectively to strengthen foreign currencies.

In a major speech on U.S. trade policy, Mr. Reagan announced several measures to ensure that the international trading system remained free, open and fair.

"To make the international trading system work, all must abide by the rules — all must work to guarantee open markets," he said.

"I will not stand by and watch American businesses fail because of unfair trading practices abroad. I will not stand by and watch American workers lose their jobs because other nations do not play by the rules," Mr. Reagan said.

Consequently U.S. trade representatives Mr. Clayton Yeutter would seek a \$300 million fund to assist U.S. companies in their attempts to export overseas and compete with U.S. trading partners, the president said.

Mr. Reagan said: "These funds will counter our loss of business to trading partners who use what, in effect, are subsidies to deprive U.S. companies of fair access to world markets."

He said Treasury Secretary James Baker would inform finance ministers and central bankers gathering next month at the annual meeting of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank in Seoul, South Korea, "that we will take into consideration the trading practices of other nations in our deliberations and decision making."

Mr. Baker had also been authorized to join other major industrial countries to announce measures to promote stronger and more balanced growth among their economies, a step Mr. Reagan said would lead to "a strengthening of foreign currencies."

The United States is facing a record trade deficit of \$150 billion this year and for the first time in modern times has become a debtor nation, meaning that the country owes more overseas than is owed to it.

Expanding debt and trade deficits of the U.S. have become volatile political problems for Mr. Reagan, who also faces a barrage of protectionist legislation from Congress this session.

Other measures he announced Monday included ordering secretary of state, Mr. George Shultz, to seek time limits on negotiations to open Japanese markets to U.S. products.

He also instructed Mr. Yeutter to speed up talks with countries

where the counterfeiting and piracy of U.S. goods has occurred to bring those practices to a quick end.

Finally, he ordered that a strike force be established among federal agencies "to uncover unfair trading practices used against us and develop and execute strategies to promptly counter and eliminate them."

Mr. Reagan said he would work with Congress to reduce tariffs and dismantle trade barriers, protect intellectual property rights, including copyrights, to improve U.S. anti-dumping and countervailing duty laws, and to amend trade laws to put deadlines on dispute settlements.

"We should no longer tolerate 16-year cases and settlements so costly and time-consuming that any assistance is ineffective," the president said.

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Moscow 'ready to make deep cuts' in strategic weapons

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze has told British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe that the Soviet Union is "ready to make deep cuts" in strategic and intermediate weapons, British officials said.

Mr. Shevardnadze is in New York to attend his first United Nations General Assembly since he was named to succeed Andrei Gromyko earlier this year.

Mr. Shevardnadze met Monday with Sir Geoffrey after U.N. Secretary of State George Shultz accused the Soviet Union of failing to respond to what he described as "far-reaching proposals" by the United States for an arms control agreement in Geneva.

But the Soviets "didn't show any more of their hand," one of the British officials said, adding that Mr. Shevardnadze "went on at some length on the dangers of militarising the Cosmos" and viewed the Reagan administration's Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) as a "step in that direction."

Sir Geoffrey reportedly urged the Soviets not to make a new arms reduction agreement "conditional on reaching an SDI deal."

The meeting was the highest level meeting between the Soviet Union and British since a Soviet official defected in Britain, touching off a wave of retaliatory expulsions and accusations of spying between the two countries.

Mr. Shultz will be listening to Mr. Shevardnadze's U.N. speech for hints of changes in Moscow's tone or tactics as he prepares for this week's meetings.

But in a global review Monday peppered with jabs at "Communist colonialism" and "Soviet imperialism," Shultz was un-

yielding on the Star Wars missile defence research programme, officially designated the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI).

The issue is at the centre of the U.S.-Soviet arms control stalemate.

Declaring that Moscow had pursued a major strategic defence programme for decades, he said: "Their propaganda about American programmes is blatantly one-sided and not to be taken seriously."

He urged the Soviet Union to get down to "real business" in nuclear arms negotiations, saying the United States wanted to cooperate with the Soviet Union in making progress on arms control issues.

U.S. activates Space Command

Meanwhile the U.S. Space Command was officially activated Monday with officials vowing it would not escalate the arms race but make the nation's military space effort more effective as a deterrent to war.

The new command, which will oversee and coordinate space programmes of the air force and navy and eventually include an army unit, will share the headquarters of the Air Force Space Command and the North American Aerospace Defence Command at Pet-

ersen Air Force Base in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

About 12,000 military and civilian personnel in the air force and navy Space Commands will initially be brought under the new command's authority.

"There are several things the command will not become," General John W. Vessey Jr., chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, told the 300 people attending the ceremony.

"It is not a force built to escalate the arms race. It is not a force built to achieve dominance for the United States. The command will make its contribution to that fundamental element of United States strategy, the prevention of war."

Gen. Vessey said the unified command will serve the national security interest by providing an organisational structure that will "centralise responsibilities for more effective use of space systems."

Gen. Robert T. Herres, who will be commander, told reporters that the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) will not be an initial responsibility of the unified command since SDI is a research project.

However, he said that if the system is developed and becomes operational, the new command could have a role in it.

China announces new politburo

PEKING (R) — China's Communist Party Tuesday elevated six new full members to the ruling politburo in the last stage of a historic leadership reshuffle.

Last week, top leader Deng Xiaoping retired more than 100 veterans from top party posts in a drive to replace ageing revolutionary leaders with younger technocrats.

The new politburo members elected by a plenary session of the party Central Committee and named by the official New China News Agency include Hu Jili, tipped by diplomats as the next party chief, and Li Peng, seen as likely to be China's next premier.

Western diplomats said there were no surprises in the list, which also includes Foreign Minister Wu Nueqian, Vice-Premiers Yao Yilin and Tian Jiyun and senior party

functionary Jiao Shi.

Ten older members of the politburo retired last week during a special conference organised by Mr. Deng to oversee the leadership clean-out and their replacement by only six people cuts the size of the body to 20 plus two alternate members.

"None of the six appointees are military people which reflects the reduced role of the armed forces," one Western diplomat said.

The retirement of Deng Yingchao, widow of Premier Chou Enlai, means China's top ruling body now has no women.

Tuesday's meeting elected five new people to the party secretariat which runs the day-to-day affairs of the party.

Diplomats said they were surprised that Mr. Deng Ligu, who was relieved of his post as party

propaganda chief in July apparently after making a speech critical of Mr. Deng's policies, had retained his place on the secretariat.

"The continued presence of Mr. Deng Ligu on the secretariat is interesting," one diplomat said. "It indicates that an alternative voice is still well represented in the highest councils of the party."

The meetings over the past two weeks have been an important victory for Mr. Deng, who turned 81 last month. He has been anxious to place his proteges in positions of power in order to ensure the longevity of his policies.

"I have fewer worries now that arrangements have been made for China's future," Mr. Deng told visiting Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew last week.

Chirac, Le Pen arrive to back Noumea settlers

NOUMEA (R) — Former French Premier Jacques Chirac arrived in New Caledonia Tuesday to bolster resistance by loyalist settlers to the Socialist government's plans for granting independence to the Pacific territory.

The leader of the Neo-Gaullist RPR Party had to change his flight plans, and eventually travelled by way of Tahiti to avoid the political embarrassment of sharing Tuesday's scheduled Paris-Noumea flight with Jean-Marie Le Pen, leader of the far-right National Front.

Mr. Chirac arrived first and was whisked by motorcade to the Noumea Town Hall where he received a rapturous reception from a crowd of about 2,000.

Le Pen was flown to the city from the international airport in a helicopter which was immediately surrounded by heavily-armed riot police. A crowd of about 350 cheered and chanted "Vive Le Pen" as the burly ex-officer left the aircraft.

Le Pen's intervention in the campaign for Sunday's regional elections, the first stage of the Paris government's plans to stage a referendum on independence by the end of 1987, introduced a volatile new element into an already tense political situation.

3 killed, 20 hurt in Tamil attack on police station

COLOMBO (R) — Three Tamil guerrillas were killed and 20 police and troops wounded in an attack on a police station in Sri Lanka's northern province, the government said.

National Security Minister Lalith Athulathudumal told reporters the attackers used rocket grenades and large mortars to destroy the Kilinochchi Police Station in a nine-hour attack.

Earlier a Defence Ministry spokesman said seven soldiers, four policemen and several guerrillas were wounded in Monday night's battle for Kilinochchi Police Station in northern Jaffna district.

He said part of the building collapsed when guerrillas drove up a truck packed with explosives and blew it up in front of the police post.

The guerrillas, fighting for a separate Tamil state in northern and eastern Sri Lanka, then pounded the station with rocket propelled grenades.

They attacked just after Colombo and New Delhi announced that a special envoy from India would visit Sri Lanka on Thursday for further talks on settling the conflict between the island's majority Sinhalese and minority Tamils.

Political sources said Indian Foreign Secretary Ramesh Bhandari was expected to meet President Junius Jayewardene and his ministers, to discuss ways of consolidating a shaky three-month ceasefire between government troops and guerrillas.

Mr. Bhandari was also expected to brief the Sri Lankan leaders on latest discussions in New Delhi between Indian officials and guerrilla leaders on a plan to end the conflict.

Peace talks in the Himalayan capital of Bhutan collapsed on Aug. 17 when the separatists walked out accusing troops of killing hundreds of Tamils. The government has denied the charge.

Meanwhile air flights and train services were cancelled and offices, shops and schools shut in India's Tamil Nadu state Tuesday for a 12-hour strike in protest against attacks on Tamils in Sri Lanka.

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.G. Ramachandran declared the day a state holiday.

Peking to allow inspection of nuclear plants

VIENNA (R) — China announced Tuesday that it would open some of its civilian nuclear installations to international inspection "at an appropriate time."

The announcement was made at the annual general conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

Chinese delegate Zhou Ping said in a speech: "We wish to state here that the Chinese government has decided to voluntarily offer to place some of its civilian nuclear installations under IAEA safeguards at an appropriate time."

China had been the only one of the five nuclear weapons powers which did not submit any civilian nuclear facilities to the IAEA safeguards regime.

Tuesday's announcement followed the first inspection of such facilities in the Soviet Union last month, following Moscow's decision to accept IAEA safeguards for some plants earlier this year.

The other three powers, the United States, France and Britain, were already allowing inspections.

China's announcement surprised delegates to the 112-nation conference.

Thousands of homeless Mexicans live one day at a time

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Maria Ramirez de Munoz stands in the makeshift kitchen at a waist-high wooden table, grinding onion for a hot chili sauce. Behind her, strung to a tree, hangs a picture of the Virgin of Guadalupe.

"We don't have our houses, but we have our lives," says Mrs. Munoz's husband, Isidro, looking at the picture. "We believe in her."

The Virgin of Guadalupe, a manifestation of Mary, the mother of Jesus Christ, is revered by Roman Catholics throughout Mexico. She is looked to particularly in times of crisis and need.

Her name has been invoked constantly since Thursday, when a devastating earthquake ravaged whole neighbourhoods and turned thousands out of their homes. The survivors now live in homemade tents on grassy boulevards or parks in their neighbourhoods.

The walls are bedsheetes — solid pink here, a blue print there. A gust of wind sends them flapping. The roof is of plastic, or, if the occupants have been lucky, corrugated tin. The floor is earth, and in the cool night shivering children huddle close to their parents.

The Virgin of Guadalupe has been given a special place in many makeshift homes. The painted Virgin looks down on jumbles of pots and pans, sacks of beans and rice and bundles of clothing tucked into corners.

Volunteer medical students who are trying to control health conditions in this tent city estimate that more than 300 people live here.

Doctors say they are most concerned about sanitary conditions. Restrooms are scarce and garbage collection nonexistent.

Another danger in this tent city is robbery.



1986 WORLD CUP — The Federation of International Football Association (FIFA), announced this Monday, that the soccer world championship will take place in Mexico in 1986 despite the tragic earthquake. The picture on the press conference in Zurich shows (from left to right) Guillermo Cando of Mexico, chief of the world championship, Rafael del Castillo, president of the Mexican soccer federation, and Sepp Blatter, secretary general of the FIFA (AP wirephoto)

Lange: French apology is not enough

WELLINGTON (R) — New Zealand Prime Minister David Lange said Tuesday that French expressions of regret over the Rainbow Warrior scandal fell well short of the formal apology demanded by both New Zealand and Australia.

In a statement, Mr. Lange said that comments by Prime Minister Laurent Fabius in Paris were "a very limited apology."

Mr. Fabius said Monday that he was "truly sorry" for the damage the sinking of the Greenpeace flagship and done to relations between France and New Zealand.

But in his statement, Mr. Lange said: "That is not an expression of regret for the act or its consequences."

Mr. Lange said reports from Paris that the French Secret Service, the DGSE, had destroyed files on the sabotage operation would not necessarily cover the tracks of those who ordered it.

"The humans remain. They can talk — perhaps they will," he said.

New Zealand's demands for a formal apology for the sinking of the Rainbow Warrior, owned by the environmentalist organisation Greenpeace, in Auckland Harbour on July 10 were backed Monday by Australia.

Prime Minister Bob Hawke said the "whitewashes ... and lies" of the past should not prevent those responsible being brought to justice and said France must atone for its actions.

France sought Tuesday to mend ties with New Zealand after acknowledging French agents were behind the sinking of the Rainbow Warrior in Auckland in July.

The External Relations Ministry said Monday Prime Minister Laurent Fabius had sent a message to New Zealand Prime Minister David Lange saying he regretted relations had been damaged by the scandal.

France said External Relations Minister Roland Dumas would meet New Zealand Deputy Prime Minister Geoffrey Palmer at the U.N. General Assembly in New York later this week.

300 Sikhs held on eve of Punjab poll

AMRITSAR, India (R) — Police arrested about 300 Sikh extremist suspects Tuesday in a last-minute crackdown to head off trouble during Wednesday's Punjab state election.

The suspects, including three women, were rounded up during raids on Punjab towns. New Delhi and Jammu and Kashmir state bordering Pakistan.

Police said Tajinder Kaur, a 45-year-old woman arrested in New Delhi, had literature on how to make transistor radio bombs.

The raids were ordered after bombs killed six people in the state and New Delhi over the past two days.

Warnings were issued to the nation not to touch unattended objects like toys, transistor radios and briefcases and to carefully check cars for magnetic time bombs.

About 150,000 police paramilitary forces, India's biggest peacetime security gathering, were on duty on the eve of the poll because of the uncovering of a plot to distribute bombs around Punjab in innocent-looking pink lunch containers, known asiffin boxes. The boxes contain gelignite.

acid and detonators and the operation is said by police to be coordinated by a 30-year-old extremist who escaped when the army last year attacked the Sikhs' holiest shrine, the Golden Temple in Amritsar.

Most of the arrests were made in the south Punjab district of Patiala which borders the Hindu-majority state of Haryana.

Patiala Police Chief G.S. Bhullar told reporters about 100 suspects were detained.

About 20 people were arrested in Amritsar and another 20 in the Punjab capital Chandigarh.

Pirate raid on Malaysian town leaves 15 dead

KUALA LUMPUR (R) — The bloody plundering of a remote Malaysian town by Filipino pirates left at least 15 people killed, including five raiders shot by police during a high-speed boat chase, police sources said Tuesday.

The sources told Reuters by telephone from Kota Kinabalu, capital of the Malaysian Borneo state of Sabah, that the bodies of the five pirates had been found in the sea following the chase.

Police also found a shattered speedboat containing four M-16 rifles drifting off the plundered town of Lahad Datu near the island of Majuntan, the sources said.

Fifteen men armed with M-16

automatic rifles and dressed in jungle fatigues landed in Lahad Datu Monday and blew up a police boat before robbing the Standard Chartered Bank of 150,000 ringgit (\$65,000), the sources said.

They said the pirates killed 10 people and wounded 11 in raids on the bank and the Lahad Datu office of the Malaysian Airline System where they snatched 5,000 ringgit (\$2,200).

The National News Agency Bernama had said Monday that the pirates' loot was 60,000 ringgit (\$24,000) taken from the bank.

Police spokesmen declined to make any official comment on the raid or name those killed.

Deputy Prime Minister and Home Minister Musa Hitam said Tuesday the Sabah authorities lacked manpower to cope with such problems and he pledged to beef up the police air unit.

Last year, police said Filipino pirates massacred 33 people on a boat sailing from Sabah to the southern Philippines and carried off three young girls.

Sabah is home to some 100,000 mainly Muslim refugees who fled the southern Philippines in the 1970s during fighting between Muslim rebels and government forces.



Diana opens Egyptian exhibition

LONDON (AP) — Princess Diana, wife of the Prince of Wales, has opened an exhibition of tapestries woven by Egyptian villagers. The tapestries were made at a school set up 25 years ago by the late Ramses Wissa Wassef, an Egyptian professor of Architecture, to tap the artistic instincts of the villagers. Touring the exhibition at London's Barbican Arts Centre, Princess Diana met four Arab weavers wearing traditional dress and working on their wooden looms. The exhibition was organised by a committee headed by Lady Hilary Weir, wife of the former British Ambassador to Egypt Sir Michael Weir.

Prince William goes to school

LONDON (R) — Prince William, three-year-old son of Prince Charles and Princess Diana, began his first day at a small London nursery school Tuesday amid a blaze of television lights and clicking cameras from a waiting media army. The young prince, the first prospective heir to the throne to begin his education away from home, was taken by his parents to start lessons at the 36-pupil school run from three basement rooms of a Victorian house in West London. Prince William, second in line to the throne after his father, waved to the crowds of reporters and photographers who had camped outside the school overnight to record his arrival. "I hope it's not like this every morning," said a neighbour pushing through the jam. Prince Charles visited the media to William's first day but asked that they then leave him and the school in peace.

Cosmonauts prepare flu vaccine

MOSCOW (R) — Five Soviet cosmonauts orbiting the earth in the Salyut-7 space station have spent two days making a new flu vaccine. Weightless and sterile conditions mean that much scientific work can be done more efficiently in space than on earth. According to the Communist Party daily Pravda, the cosmonauts are also using a machine, called "EFU-Robot", which is able to make more biological extracts in a few brief sessions than earth-bound equipment could make in months. One of a three-man team who arrived on board the Salyut-7 last week returns to earth in the next few days with Vladimir Dzhanibekov, one of two cosmonauts in orbit since June 6.

Hijacked TWA pilot wins award

LONDON (AP) — Captain John Testrake, pilot of the Trans World Airlines (TWA) jet hijacked to Beirut earlier this year, arrived in London to receive an award for distinguished conduct from the guild of air pilots and air navigators. Capt. Testrake, 57, was the pilot of the TWA Boeing 727 hijacked after taking off from Athens. Thirty-nine passengers and crew were held hostage by Shi'ite Muslims for 17 days before being released on June 30. "It's all sliding into the past now," he said as he arrived at London's Heathrow Airport.

Child murders shock Britons

LONDON (R) — A series of murders of young children has shocked Britain and given rise to alarm about the ability of social workers to protect children in danger. A London court has heard how a three-year-old girl, Heidi Kosedra, was starved to death in a locked bedroom by her mother and a man with whom she lived. In another court, a woman was charged with the murder of her seven-year-old daughter and the child's four-year-old friend. Their bodies were found last week in Norfolk, eastern England, police were hunting for the killer of a three-year-old girl found drowned in a ditch last week. She had been sexually assaulted. The National Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse (NSPCA), last week published figures showing the number of reported cases of physical abuse of children under 15 had risen by 70 per cent in the past six years. Its officials believe one of the most disturbing aspects of recent cases is the apparent inability of social workers and other health authorities to protect children at risk.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMBEL BERKLEY
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ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

- Q1 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ 6 ♠ A85 ♠ QJ643 ♠ A75
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
3 ♠ Pass 3 NT Pass
4 ♠ Pass ?
What action do you take?
A — North's bidding shows a good six-card spade suit and four diamonds. Under the circumstances, there is no reason why you should want to get out of four spades — there are hands where you can make 10 tricks, but not 11.
- Q2 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ A J7653 ♠ A32 ♠ 963
Partner opens the bidding with one no trump. What do you respond?
A — You know where you want to play this hand — four hearts. So you should simply go ahead and bid it. We won't fault you too much if you bid only three hearts, but there is no logic in that action. Three hearts should either suggest that three no trump is a possible contract, or that you are interested in slam.
- Q3 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ 5 ♠ KJ982 ♠ A765 ♠ KJ3
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 NT Pass 3 NT Pass
3 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass
What action do you take?
A — If you bid again, you must have misread the auction. Partner's jump to three hearts over the takeout double showed at least four hearts and scant defensive values. You have no reason to think you can
- make four hearts, and even less to suppose you might defeat four spades. Pass while you are well off.
- Q4 — Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ J762 ♠ AK55 ♠ J5 ♠ AJ103
What is your opening bid?
A — Your heart suit could be bid, but we would not open one heart. Should partner respond two diamonds, you would be awkwardly placed. A convenient one club opening bid will enable you to handle any response partner makes.
- Q5 — Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ J762 ♠ AK55 ♠ J5 ♠ AJ103
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
?
What action do you take?
A — Since partner did not show a new suit at the one-level, and did not respond one no trump, it is more than likely that he has a five-card or longer club suit. With a minimum hand, there is no reason to venture on. Pass.
- Q6 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ AJ1053 ♠ AQ4 ♠ K87 ♠ K63
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 NT Pass 2 ♠ Pass
?
What action do you take?
A — You have a minimum no trump opening bid and, even though you probably have two trump tricks, it is illogical to suppose that your side can beat two spades — bear in mind that partner did not act over your opening. Pass, and let partner decide if he wants to compete.